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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. LXXXVII. No. 2255

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper and for

Canadian Magazine Post.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, 1940.

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APR 19 1940

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# MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Advertisements for this column are accepted AT THE RATE OF 2D. PER WORD prepaid (if Box Number used 6d. extra), and must reach this office not later than Friday morning for the coming week's issue.

All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

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THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE  
AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

VOL. LXXXVII. No. 2255.

Printed in England.  
Entered as Second-Class Matter at the  
New York, U.S.A. Post Office.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, 1940.

Published Weekly, Price ONE SHILLING.  
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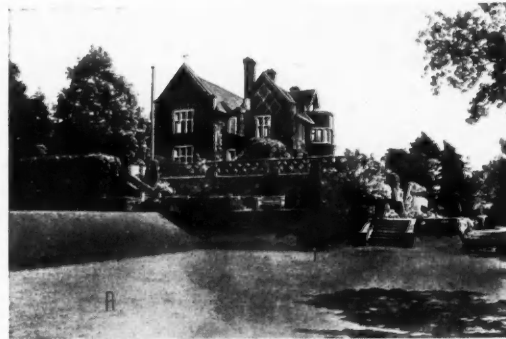
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DAY AND NIGHT NURSERIES  
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### CHARMING GROUNDS

with delightful water, rock and walled gardens.

### PRIVATE CRICKET GROUND

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with capital buildings.

Pasture, Arable and Valuable Woodlands.

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Amidst pleasant surroundings close to Station.

40 MINUTES FROM TOWN.



**FREEHOLD ONLY £3,450**

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A most attractive  
**MODERN RESIDENCE**  
with hall, 3 well-proportioned reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and compact offices.

Co.'s services.  
Modern drainage.  
GARAGE, COTTAGE.  
Delightful grounds with  
HARD AND GRASS  
TENNIS COURTS,  
kitchen garden and  
small paddock; in all  
about 2 ACRES.

## MAGNIFICENT VIEW TO SOUTH DOWNS SURREY — GUILDFORD

Away from main road traffic, on Southern slope.

This very charming

### FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

Galleried lounge hall,  
3 reception rooms,  
9 bedrooms, 2 baths.

All main services.

GARAGE.

Lovely gardens, tennis  
lawn, etc.; in all nearly

**1½ ACRES**

**FOR SALE OR WOULD LET UNFURNISHED AT MODERATE RENT**

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Amidst unspoiled rural surroundings about 4 miles from Tunbridge Wells.



DELIGHTFULLY MATURED GARDEN, WITH SMALL STREAM.

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Accommodation conveniently arranged on two floors only.

6 bedrooms (h. and c. in all), 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom and domestic offices.

Main electric light, power and water.  
Central heating.

GARAGE.

## SMALL SPORTING PROPERTY

providing

FIRST-CLASS SHOOTING, COARSE FISHING AND BOATING.

8 miles from Norwich, in delightful country.

### PICTURESQUE BUNGALOW

with large lounge,  
5 bedrooms, bathroom.

Co.'s electric light.  
Central heating.

Thatched-roof  
Keeper's COTTAGE.

GARAGES.

Boathouse, etc.

10-ACRE LAKE and  
VALUABLE  
WOODLANDS.



**IN ALL NEARLY 100 ACRES  
TO BE SOLD. PRICE £5,000**

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Delightful situation. In no way isolated. 10 miles Bournemouth. Excellent sporting facilities.

### THIS IMPOSING AND SUBSTANTIALLY-BUILT RESIDENCE

Luxuriously appointed and only recently the subject of large expense in modernisation.

PANELLED HALL.

5 RECEPTION.

10 OR MORE BED AND 2 DRESSING ROOMS.

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MASSIVE OAK STAIRCASE.

Own electric light. Well water.  
Modern drainage.



2 COTTAGES.

SQUASH COURT.

STABLING. GARAGES.

LOVELY GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

Ornamental Water, Woodland, etc.

In all

**ABOUT 44 ACRES**

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**XIVth CENTURY CHARACTER HOUSE**  
of real merit, pleasantly mellowed by time, whilst entirely up-to-date. Main Electricity, Central Heating, etc. 4 reception, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 2 Cottages. **OLD-WORLD GARDENS OF SPECIAL APPEAL TO A GARDEN LOVER**  
In harmony with the character of the House. Woodland dells, with stream, cascades, etc. **MODERATE PRICE WITH 21 ACRES or to Let Furnished.**  
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### 80 MINUTES FROM LONDON

Newly in the market for sale, a very attractive  
Agricultural, Residential, and Sporting Estate of nearly

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**HANDSOME GEORGIAN RESIDENCE** of moderate size, standing in a Park with large lake. Numerous farms, holdings and cottages, producing an excellent Rent Roll.

First-rate Shooting with ample Woodland, and some capital Partridge ground.

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#### UP-TO-DATE GEORGIAN HOUSE

In a beautifully wooded situation, high up, with panoramic views and long carriage drive approach. Oak-panelled lounge and drawing room, 2 other reception rooms, 11 bed and dressing rooms (with lavatory basins), 2 bathrooms. Stabling. Cottage. Hard tennis court. **SMALL PARK OF 20 ACRES**  
FOR SALE. (17,016.)

### RURAL SUSSEX

Beautifully wooded country, convenient for London.



#### FINELY APPOINTED, UP-TO-DATE COUNTRY HOUSE OF QUEEN ANNE CHARACTER

4 reception, 11 bedrooms (with lav. basins), 5 tiled bathrooms. Electric light. Main water. Central heating. Cottages. Home Farm. **Exceptional Gardens and Parklike Lands. 44 ACRES**  
For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER. (17,076.)

#### Old-World Residence in Wilts

Close to the Downs, near Salisbury. It dates back about 250 years. 3 reception, 6-8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Up-to-date. STABLING. CHARMING GARDENS. **Trout Fishing in Avon**  
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Excellent Hunting centre, near Main Line Station.

#### TWO HOURS FROM TOWN

#### Well Appointed Country House

standing 350ft. up in matured gardens and park with avenue carriage drive and Lodge. It has 4 reception, 12 bed and dressing rooms (with fitted lav. basins), 2 bathrooms, usual offices. Main Electricity and Water. Central Heating.

STABLING.

3 COTTAGES.

#### Finely Timbered Old Grounds and

#### Park of 50 Acres

For Sale at the very moderate price of £10,000. Inspected and recommended by OSBORN & MERCER. (15,890.)

#### A Fine Old Elizabethan House

#### A Capital Dairy Farm

#### Long Stretch of Trout Fishing



The Property is easily accessible to such centres as Shrewsbury, Crewe, etc. The Residence stands high, on sandy soil, with southerly aspect, has about 10 bedrooms, modern conveniences, etc., and is surrounded by Parklands. The land is rich pasture and there are splendid buildings.

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450ft. above sea level. Station 1 mile.  
**PANORAMIC VIEWS OVER ASHDOWN FOREST**



(12456) **BOMB-PROOF SHELTER—GRASS Paddock**

In spotless order and condition.  
3 reception rooms.  
9 bedrooms (h. & c.).  
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Main services. Central heating.  
Electric Cookers and two Refrigerators.  
GARAGE (3).  
Useful outbuildings.

#### SPLENDID HARD COURT

Lawns, fine trees, kitchen garden.

#### OVER 6 ACRES

#### ELIZABETHAN THATCHED COTTAGE STYLE

Erected 1912. Private access to Famous Golf Course.  
**GLORIOUS VIEWS OF ENGLISH CHANNEL**



(12341)

UNIQUE AND LIKEABLE HOUSE  
3 reception rooms.  
8 bedrooms.  
2 bathrooms.  
Central heating. Main services.  
Stabling. Garage.  
Long drive.

#### GARDENS A FEATURE

Tennis court, bowling green, lily pond.  
Orchard and kitchen garden.

#### ABOUT 9 ACRES

#### SUNK ROSE GARDEN. BLUEBELL WOOD

BOTH OF THESE CHARMING HOUSES ARE AVAILABLE EITHER FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED

Photos and full information from Owners' Agents, Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

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77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, W.1

INSPECTED AND STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.  
£3,600. 6 ACRES.

#### OXON

In the lovely country between High Wycombe and Oxford (12 miles). Very convenient for but away from traffic. Well-built COUNTRY HOUSE, in excellent order and with Main Electricity, Telephone, etc. 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 6 principal bedrooms, 3 servants' rooms, some fitted basins (h. and c.), gents' lavatory. Garages for 3. Stabling for 6.

#### EXCELLENT COTTAGE.

Inexpensive Grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, orchard and paddock.

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (15,629.)

#### £2,700 FREEHOLD. MIGHT BE LET. SURREY-SUSSEX BORDERS

Convenient FAMILY RESIDENCE in excellent order. 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms. Central heating, main electricity, water and gas. Heated Garage for 2. Gardener's Cottage. Charming Gardens, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, etc.; 2 ACRES. TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (5609.)



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(between Ashford, Canterbury and Folkestone). — QUEEN ANNE FARMHOUSE: 3 sitting rooms, bathroom, 4-5 bedrooms. Garage. Farmery. Pleasure and kitchen gardens, orchard and 14 Acres of pasture.

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#### TROUT STREAM. 42 ACRES.

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1,000 Acres Rough Shooting. 4 miles Salmon and Trout Fishing. 11 miles from Plymouth.

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INTERESTING OLD MANOR HOUSE 3 reception, bathroom, 8 bedrooms. Electric light, water laid on. Stabling for 4; Garage; Groom's room. Charming grounds and paddock.

9 ACRES

To Let Furnished or Unfurnished (lease 4 years to run). TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

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And at  
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
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**FIRST TIME IN THE MARKET FOR 200 YEARS**  
Overlooking Common for ever protected. City or West End  
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**TO BE SOLD**—An Early GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, in excellent order and easy to run. 9-10 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 reception rooms. Central heating, all main services. Garage, man's room, Stabling. Beautiful Old Garden with tennis court.  
**3 ACRES. REDUCED PRICE.**  
Further particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (1068.)

Strongly recommended from personal knowledge.  
**BETWEEN OXFORD & BANBURY**



**THIS FINE OLD "WILLIAM AND MARY" HOUSE FOR SALE** with 7 ACRES. 9 bedrooms (h. and c. basins), 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, maids' sitting room, etc. Co.'s electricity, new drainage, splendid water, central heating. Squash and Hard Courts. GARAGE. STABLING. FLAT. Beautifully timbered OLD-WORLD GROUNDS and useful Paddock.  
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**WILTSHIRE**

Secluded position approached over Common.



2½ miles Main Line Station. 10 mins. 'Bus.  
**CHARMING MODERNISED RESIDENCE.** with Old Cotswold Stone Roof. 6 bed, 2 bath, 3 reception rooms. All Main Services. Central Heating. Garage. Stabling. Cottage. Delightful well-timbered Grounds, 2 Tennis Courts. Orchard. Paddocks.  
**7 ACRES FRESH IN MARKET**  
To be Sold or perhaps Let Furnished.  
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2, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

**DEVON AND SOMERSET BORDERS**  
4 MILES MAIN LINE JUNCTION.



**AN ORIGINAL QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE**  
Hall, suite of panelled reception rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.  
Every comfort and convenience.  
COTTAGE. GARAGES AND STABLING.  
**ABOUT 40 ACRES. FOR SALE**  
CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, London, W.1.

**WEST SUSSEX**



**THIS EXCELLENT GEORGIAN HOUSE** on an eminence, enjoys delightful views to the sea.  
Accommodation:  
Hall, 4 reception rooms, 16 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.  
Modern conveniences.  
GARAGE. STABLING AND LODGE.  
Delightful GROUNDS and parkland, in all about **60 ACRES. PRICE £7,000 FREEHOLD**  
CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

**NORTH CORNWALL**

Easy motor run St. Enodoc Golf Course.



**STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE** in a beautiful position.  
Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.  
Every convenience. Main electric light.  
EXCELLENT COTTAGE. GARAGES. STABLING. CHARMING GARDENS, PASTURELAND.  
**30 ACRES. £4,000**  
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**STUD FARM FOR SALE**

**LADY JAMES DOUGLAS,**

who is giving up breeding, is desirous of DISPOSING of her well-known

**HARWOOD STUD FARM**

as a "going concern."

The Property comprises

ABOUT 115 ACRES OF PADDOCKS (freehold).  
ABOUT 50 BOXES, besides STALLION BOXES,  
and all other necessary buildings.

ALSO 4 COTTAGES.

The whole in first-class order.

(4 more cottages could be included if desired.)

**THE BLOODSTOCK consists of:**

8 BROOD MARES.  
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3 WELL-BRED YEARLINGS.

**HARWOOD LODGE**

is also for SALE, subject to the existing tenancy thereof.

Apply to: Major H. O. BOOTH, Harwood Stud, Wootton Hill, Newbury.

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EXQUISITE HOME AND MONEY-MAKING CONCERN.  
Within 2 hours London. Lovely unspoilt country.

**PROBABLY THE BEST EQUIPPED DISEASE-FREE DAIRY AND PEDIGREE STOCK FARM IN ENGLAND.** Wonderful modern buildings to tie 175, and pen and house accommodation for several hundred additional animals; residence of character with all modern conveniences; 16 Cottages; nearly 1,000 acres of the richest land; ideal for producing high quality pedigree stock; disease-free herd optional; first-rate fishing and shooting. For Sale at fraction of cost of improvements.—Detailed description and photos, of the Sole Agents: Woodcocks, 30, St. George Street, W.1.

**FOR SALE.**

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5 miles Bristport. 2 miles Beaminster.



**SMALL COUNTRY PROPERTY** of 5 ACRES, comprising old Rectory, recently modernised throughout. Central heating; main electric light and power; containing 3 reception rooms and hall, excellent kitchen and usual offices, 4 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 secondary bedrooms, large attic and boxroom. Hunter Stabling (for 2), harness room; Garage; and Outbuildings. 2 acres Garden. 1 paddock of 3 Acres. PRICE £4,000. Also excellent 5-roomed Cottage, restored 1939, to be sold with property or separately, £500.—"A.583," c/o COUNTRY LIFE Offices, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

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**SOUTH DEVON.**—For SALE, HOUSE; 2 sitting, 3 bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.); heated linen cupboard, housemaid's cupboard; kitchen, store room; 2 w.c.'s; electric light and cooker, gas fires, Co.'s water; garden (flower and kitchen), fruit trees, summer house.—LAWSON, Corydon, Teignmouth.

**SOMERSET—SOMETHING WORTH VIEWING.**

**CHARMING TUDOR-TYPE HOUSE**, built in pretty village Fivehead. Safe area. About acre land. 4 bedrooms, 2 reception (Tudor lounge), large kitchen (well fitted), cloakroom, tiled bathroom, 2 w.c.'s; latest fittings. Large garage. Pretty views. Main services. Cavity walls. Partly central heated. £1,525 FREEHOLD. More land if required.—W. HAWTHORN, "Ganges," Fivehead, Taunton, Somerset.

**CHARMING SECLUDED COUNTRY RESIDENCE**, uninterrupted view of sea (Bristol Channel); treed garden sloping to sandy beach, summer house, overlooking sea, tennis lawn, extensive kitchen gardens; safe area; comprising entrance hall, morning, dining and lounge, cloakroom with h. and c., kitchen and scullery (Esse cooker), 4 principal bedrooms (one with dressing room), 2 maids' rooms with separate staircase; double garage. Few minutes train and buses.—Apply J. GILBERT, "St. Hilary," Lavernock, near Cardiff.

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MESSRS.

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have a number of FURNISHED COUNTRY RESIDENCES, SEASIDE HOUSES and BUNGALOWS and COUNTRY COTTAGES available for the summer months or longer periods, particularly in Polzeath, Daymer Bay, Padstow and St. Merryn districts. Enquiries invited.

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#### AN ELIZABETHAN MANOR →

of architectural merit, and with historical and literary associations made famous by Thomas Hardy.

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Electric light. Central heating.

GARAGE and ample Stabling accommodation.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS

Squash Racquet Court. A Trout Stream passes through the property for about a mile.

Home Farm of over 300 Acres let at £330 per annum. Cottages.

**TOTAL AREA 334 ACRES**

Or the Property WOULD BE SOLD with 30 Acres.

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WITHIN 150 MILES OF LONDON,  
SMALL GEORGIAN OR QUEEN ANNE  
HOUSE WITH ABOUT 10 BEDROOMS  
AND UP TO 500 ACRES OF LAND.—  
MESSRS. CURTIS & HENSON, 5,  
MOUNT STREET, W.1.**

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in a beautiful district.

**TUDOR STYLE RESIDENCE**

in a sheltered position.

Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 12 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Central heating. Electric light.

GARAGES AND USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS.

WELL TIMBERED GROUNDS.

Nearly 400 ACRES, including valuable woodland. Home Farm and Jacobean Residence let with over 350 Acres at £300 per annum. Several excellent Cottages.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

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#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD. CHARMING CHARLES I HOUSE

with oak beams and other nice features. Large drawing room, dining room, hall with old staircase, 5 bedrooms, attic, bathroom.

Companies' electric light and water. Garage. Large Barn. LOVELY OLD-WORLD GARDEN of nearly 4 ACRES, orchard, small pool. The property is situated in a rural part of Hertfordshire about 25 miles from Town.

**FREEHOLD £2,500**

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600ft. up with magnificent views, close to Reigate Hill. AN ARCHITECT PLANNED RESIDENCE. in attractive gardens. Accommodation: 3 reception rooms, lounge hall, cloakrooms and usual offices, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main water, gas and electricity. Excellent Garage and Cottage. Gardens and Grounds of ABOUT 4 ACRES.

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#### BUCKS

Close to Gerrard's Cross Station, quiet and secluded position. THE ATTRACTIVELY BUILT MODERN HOUSE, with lovely views. Hall with cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, lounge hall, 11 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and usual offices. Main services and Garage. Gas. Pretty Gardens of about 1½ Acres, with tennis lawn, etc.

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#### A GEORGIAN HOUSE

IN A PRETTY RURAL PART OF ESSEX HIGH UP IN A LOVELY POSITION.

**FOR SALE**

This ATTRACTIVE OLD HOUSE situate in a well-wooded park of about

**100 ACRES**

Accommodation:

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, BILLIARD ROOM, ABOUT 11 BEDROOMS,

2 OR 3 DRESSING ROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS

EXCELLENT OFFICES.

Electric light. Splendid water supply. GOOD OUTBUILDINGS. GARAGES.

DELIGHTFUL WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS.

**PRICE £7,000**



Agents: MAPLE & CO., as above.

#### IN THE LOVELY NEW FOREST

A few miles from BROCKENHURST and adjacent to excellent Yacht Anchorage, with fine unspoilt views.

**FOR SALE**

The above strongly recommended property. The HOUSE is in first-class order and has modern conveniences, including:

Central heating and electric light.

LOUNGE HALL, 4 RECEPTION, 10 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS.

PICTURESQUE COTTAGE.

2 GARAGES.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

with hard tennis court, pretty woodland, paddock, etc.; in all about

**10 ACRES**



Full details of MAPLE & CO., as above.

ON BORDERS NEW FOREST.—DAIRY FARM of nearly 60 ACRES, with small Gentleman's residence of 6 rooms, bath; fitted central heating. Co.'s water; electric light. Model farm buildings. Price £5,700 Freehold.—LANE & SMITH, Dalkeith Steps, Bournemouth.

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THE ONLY COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER.  
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17, Above Bar, Southampton. **WALLER & KING, F.A.I.**  
Business Established over 100 years.



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*In a Beautiful and Sporting Part of Gloucestershire within easy reach of Main Line Station, London in under 2 hours.*

SUPERBLY APPOINTED  
AND IN PERFECT  
ORDER.

FINE OAK PANELLING  
AND FIREPLACES.

Hall.  
5 reception rooms.  
8 principal bedrooms.  
5 servants' rooms.  
5 bathrooms.

Central heating  
throughout.

Main electricity.



FIRST-CLASS GARAGES  
AND STABLING.

HOME FARM.

DOWER HOUSE  
AND  
5 COTTAGES.

GLORIOUS OLD  
GARDENS

New Hard Tennis Court.

TROUT STREAM.

BATHING POOL.

#### A REMARKABLY CHOICE ESTATE OF ABOUT 126 ACRES

WITHIN RECENT YEARS AN ENORMOUS EXPENDITURE HAS BEEN MADE ON IMPROVEMENTS. IT IS NOW UNQUESTIONABLY ONE OF THE MOST PERFECT PROPERTIES IN THE MARKET AT THE PRESENT TIME.

**FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE**

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### GLORIOUS POSITION OVERLOOKING THE VALLEY OF THE USK

8 MILES FROM ABERGAVENNY.  
Easy reach of Main Line Station with  
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above sea level with magnificent views.

#### ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE

Nearly every room facing due South.

*In perfect order, with all modern  
conveniences. Main electric light  
and power. Central heating. "Aqua"  
cooker. Oak floors and staircase.  
Choice fireplaces.*



Lounge hall, 3 charming reception rooms,  
12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.  
GARAGE and CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT.  
STABLING. COTTAGE. FARMERY.

DELIGHTFUL  
INEXPENSIVE GARDENS.

Very Low Rates.

**£5,750 WITH 25 ACRES**

Rough Shooting over several thousand  
acres and Salmon Fishing available.

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### IN RURAL BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Easy reach of Aylesbury. Outskirts of beautiful Village.



**XVTH CENTURY HOUSE.**—Tudor panellied  
brickwork, oak beams, open fireplaces. 7 bedrooms,  
4 baths, 4 reception. Magnificent Old Barn. Garage.  
Lovely Old Gardens. Swimming pool, hard court. For  
sale with 8 Acres. Would be let Furnished.

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### PERFECT SUSSEX SCENERY

Near Haywards Heath. Easy reach of Sea.



**QUEEN ANNE HOUSE.** set within lovely  
grounds of 10 Acres. 13 bedrooms, 3 baths, lounge,  
4 reception. Garage. Stabling.

TO LET FURNISHED.

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### SURREY HILLS

500ft. up with glorious views.



**TO LET FURNISHED or FOR SALE.**—Beauti-  
fully appointed. 9 beds, 2 baths, lounge and 3  
reception. Garages. Lovely Gardens. A most delightful  
place.

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## THE ATTRACTIVE COUNTY OF HERTFORDSHIRE IN THE OLD AND HISTORIC CITY OF ST. ALBANS

A CHOICE MEDIUM RESIDENCE in a most get-at-able neighbourhood, with excellent motoring roads and express service to Town (about half-an-hour), recently thoroughly overhauled and ready for occupation. The Owner is having to Sell owing to necessary removal to another part of the country.



The HOUSE is of modern lay-out and  
easily worked, with 1 Acre of Garden.  
It can be easily run with two domestic  
helps and gardener-chauffeur.  
There are 4 reception rooms, cloakroom  
and maids' sitting room, 5 principal bed-  
rooms and dressing room and 2 bathrooms,  
4 secondary bedrooms, 3 lavatories, cellar,  
and usual pantries.

Coke hot-water boiler, with 2 radiators for  
heating.

Gas cooker and gas fires throughout.

The Garden contains tennis lawn, green-  
houses and fruit orchard.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS and Wash.

**FOR SALE (or would be Let).**

The very moderate price asked  
is £3,250



THE PROPERTY IS FREEHOLD AND THE RATEABLE VALUE IS £116 PER ANNUM.  
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### CHYNGTON WAY, SEAFORD, SUSSEX—near the Sea

THIS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-BUILT FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

occupying an open position to the South,  
and standing in the midst of most

ATTRACTIVE GARDENS  
AND GROUNDS  
OF NEARLY 4 ACRES

FINE HALL AND LANDING MOST  
SUITABLE FOR A PICTURE GALLERY

Library, delightful sitting room with bow  
window, dining room, 7 good bedrooms,  
3 bathrooms and the usual domestic  
offices.



The fittings and appointments are of  
EXCEEDINGLY GOOD  
WORKMANSHIP.  
PANEL HEATING.  
MAIN DRAINAGE.  
ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
COMPANY'S WATER.

GARAGE AND  
CHAUFFEUR'S COTTAGE ATTACHED  
TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION  
On Wednesday, April 17th, 1940  
(unless sold privately)

The Contents of the Residence will be  
offered by Auction on the same date.

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FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE OR WOULD BE LET UNFURNISHED

Within 1½ hours North of Town and only 1½ miles from important Main Line Station with express service.

### CONVENIENT FOR NEWMARKET AND CAMBRIDGE

Approached by a nice lime avenue  
carriage drive.

THIS  
WELL-APPOINTED  
RESIDENCE

with 8 BEDROOMS,

3 BATHROOMS,

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,

EXCELLENT MODERN OFFICES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

RADIATORS.



Inspected and strongly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co. (51,986.)

4 LOOSE BOXES.

LARGE GARAGE and OUTBUILDINGS.

HARD TENNIS COURT.

BEAUTIFULLY LAID-OUT  
GARDENS

and good kitchen garden and paddock  
in all about

8½ ACRES

HUNTING WITH THE FITZWILLIAM,  
OAKLEY AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The subject of illustrated articles in "Country Life."

### ON THE BORDERS OF SOMERSET, GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND WILTSHIRE

ONLY AN HOUR AND 40 MINUTES FROM LONDON BY EXPRESS SERVICE AND CONVENIENT FOR THE WEST AND MIDLANDS.

300ft. up on sandy soil, commanding lovely  
panoramic views.

THIS HISTORIC PROPERTY

comprises a beautiful

TUDOR AND JACOBAN  
HOUSE

with

15 BEDROOMS,

3 BATHROOMS,

HALL AND 3 RECEPTION ROOMS  
AND LIBRARY.



FOR SALE AT A MOST REASONABLE PRICE

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Central heating. Electric light.  
Main water supply.

LOVELY TERRACED  
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HARD TENNIS COURT.

FARMHOUSE AND 5 COTTAGES.

BEAUTIFUL OLD TITHE BARN.

GARAGE FOR 6 CARS.

The property extends to over 250 ACRES  
(of which about 30 Acres are woodland).  
The Residence, with about 8 Acres and  
4 cottages, are in hand—the remainder is  
Let at about £276 p.a.

Hunting with the Beaufort and Avon Vale  
Packs. Several Golf Courses within an  
easy drive.

### CHIPPINGHURST MANOR

2½ miles from Wheatley Station, 8 miles from Thame and 7 miles from Oxford. Well away from main roads and aerodromes.

THE  
BEAUTIFUL AND ORIGINAL  
TUDOR RESIDENCE

has recently been enlarged and modernised  
at great cost, is in beautiful order, and  
contains many of the original oak beams,  
panelling and fireplaces, and is replete with  
every modern convenience.

HALL.

FINE LOUNGE (48ft. long).

DINING ROOM (33ft. long).

OAK ROOM or STUDY. PLAY ROOM.

CLOAKROOM, etc.

9 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS

(some in suites), servants' bedrooms.

6 BATHROOMS.

FIRST-RATE OFFICES, etc.



Radiators. Main Electric Light. Modern  
drainage and ample Water.

OLD-WORLD GARDENS  
AND GROUNDS

including bowling green, squash court, and  
hard tennis court, etc.

The River Thame intersects the property  
for about a mile, and affords Fishing from  
both banks; also Boathouse.

GARAGE.

TO BE LET FURNISHED  
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**DEVONSHIRE**

*On the borders of Dorset, about 3 miles from Axminster, 8 miles from the sea at Lyme Regis, and within easy reach of Exeter.*

THE COMPACT FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE,

**OXENWAYS, MEMBURY, Nr. AXMINSTER**

comprising:

A VERY ATTRACTIVE MEDIUM-SIZED RESIDENCE

containing:

8 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS,  
 3 RECEPTION ROOMS,  
 GOOD OFFICES.

WELL-MAINTAINED GROUNDS  
 OF ABOUT 8 ACRES



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**IN AN UNSPOILED HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE**

**BETWEEN FORDINGBRIDGE AND RINGWOOD**

*Occupying a delightful secluded position away from main road traffic.*

**TO BE SOLD**

THIS PICTURESQUE

**XVIIth CENTURY SMALL THATCHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE**

recently the subject of considerable expense by the present owner, and now in perfect condition throughout and possessing all modern conveniences.

The accommodation comprises:

4 BEDROOMS  
 (2 with wash basins).

BATHROOM.

LOUNGE. DINING ROOM  
 (both with oak beamed ceilings and brick fireplaces).

NURSERY.

KITCHEN and OFFICES.



Companies' Electric Light and Water.  
 Oak Staircase of Saxon design.

GARAGE.

3 Loose Boxes. Outbuildings.

**THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS**

are in good order, and include orchard, kitchen garden, pleasure gardens with flower beds and rockeries, large paddock.

The whole extending to an area of about

**3 ACRES**

**PRICE £2,600 FREEHOLD**

For particulars and order to view apply FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

**IN A BEAUTIFUL PART OF THE NEW FOREST**

*Occupying an exquisite position amidst charming surroundings and commanding fine open views over the Forest.*

**TO BE SOLD.**

THIS

**ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE**

of sound construction, filled with all modern conveniences and comforts.

4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS,

SMALL BOUDOIR,

DRESSING ROOM,

BATHROOM,

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,

TILED KITCHEN

and

EXCELLENT OFFICES.



Electric light and main water.

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GARAGE.

STABLING.

VINERY. PEACH HOUSE.

**DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS.**

Including lawn, productive kitchen garden with orchard.

THE WHOLE COMPRISING AN AREA OF ABOUT  
**ONE ACRE**

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**SOUTH HAMPSHIRE**

*Within a short distance of the Coast and close to the Borders of the beautiful New Forest.*

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built under the supervision of an eminent Architect, and containing many charming features.

4 GOOD BEDROOMS  
 (3 with basins, hot and cold water).

BATHROOM.

CHARMING DRAWING ROOM.

DINING ROOM.

SUN ROOM  
 (enclosed by sliding glass doors).

HALL. KITCHEN  
 and GOOD OFFICES.



Companies' Gas, Water and Electric Light.

EXCELLENT GARAGE  
 and Greenhouse.

**THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS**

are well matured and beautifully laid out with lawns, flower borders and grass walks, small productive orchard, kitchen garden, large paddock.

The whole covering an area of about

**5 ACRES**

**PRICE £2,550 FREEHOLD**

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Riviera Offices.

## TO BE LET FURNISHED AND FREEHOLD FOR SALE Amidst Surrey's most beautiful scenery. Typical of Scottish Highlands. Close to the famous FRENHAM PONDS AND DEVIL'S JUMPS

c.4

surrounded by miles of beautiful common land.

### THIS FASCINATING RESIDENCE

designed by well-known architect, and containing entrance and inner halls, 2 reception rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, complete offices, servants' hall.

GARAGE. STABLING.  
Useful Outbuildings.

Co.'s water Electric light. Modern drainage.  
2 COTTAGES AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED.

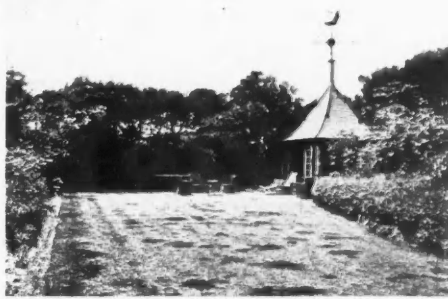
### REALLY BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS

with first-rate tennis and croquet lawns, herbaceous borders, pergolas, well-stocked kitchen garden, water garden, fives court, woodlands and heatherlands; in all

35 ACRES

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c.2

In a beautiful position with a delightful country outlook and views of Blue Anchor Bay. Convenient for Dunster and Minehead.

### MOST ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room.

Main water, electricity and drainage.

STABLING. GARAGE. GOOD COTTAGE.

### MATURED GARDENS

with tennis lawn, kitchen garden, paddock and orchard.

In all about

5 ACRES

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On the outskirts of an Old World Village.

### FASCINATING LONG LOW HOUSE

Full of oak beams, open fireplaces, restored and renovated at considerable expense.

Hall, 1 large double sitting room, dining room, 2 ground-floor cloak rooms, 6 bedrooms (with lavatory basins), 3 bathrooms, model offices with "Esse" cooker, model kitchen, "Permutit" water softener. Frigidaire.

LARGE DOUBLE GARAGE  
and other useful Outbuildings.

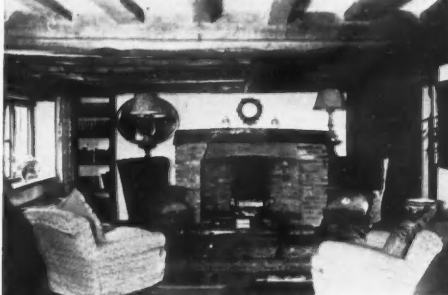
Co.'s electric light and power. Gas. Main water.  
Central heating.

### REALLY BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

with hard tennis court, kitchen garden, flower beds; in all

3 ACRES ONLY £3,950

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## TUDOR COTTAGE IN OLD BERKS

c.3

Amidst peaceful surroundings, in the fertile Vale of White Horse in centre unspoilt village, and about 3 miles from Wantage.

3 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main drainage. Companies' electric light and water.

### WELL LAID-OUT GARDEN

with flower beds, kitchen garden, etc.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

### FREEHOLD, £1,500 FOR QUICK SALE

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## A BUSINESS MAN'S IDEAL HOOK HEATH, SURREY PRICE FREEHOLD, £5,500

c.1

### DESIRABLE RESIDENCE

occupying a pleasant and secluded situation within easy access of shops, Post Office, Churches and Schools.

Entrance hall, spacious lounge hall, tiled loggia, 4 handsome reception rooms, billiards room, 8 principal bed and dressing rooms, 6 secondary and staff bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices, maids' sitting room.

2 COTTAGES. GARAGE for 2 or 3 cars.

Stabling for 6. Useful Outbuildings.

Co.'s electricity and water. Part central heating. Constant hot water. Modern sanitation.

### BEAUTIFUL MATURED GROUNDS

with Pasture and Plantations; in all

ABOUT 13 ACRES

A FURTHER 19 ACRES ADJOINING CAN BE PURCHASED IF DESIRED.

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*On the borders of Dorset, about 3 miles from Axminster, 8 miles from the sea at Lyme Regis, and within easy reach of Exeter.*

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 GOOD OFFICES.

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**BETWEEN FORDINGBRIDGE AND RINGWOOD**

*Occupying a delightful secluded position away from main road traffic.*

**TO BE SOLD**

THIS PICTURESQUE

**XVIIIth CENTURY SMALL THATCHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE**

recently the subject of considerable expense by the present owner, and now in perfect condition throughout and possessing all modern conveniences.

The accommodation comprises:

4 BEDROOMS  
 (2 with wash basins).

BATHROOM.

LOUNGE. DINING ROOM  
 (both with oak beamed ceilings and brick fireplaces).

NURSERY.

KITCHEN and OFFICES.



Companies' Electric Light and Water.  
 Oak Staircase of Saxon design.

GARAGE.

3 Loose Boxes. Outbuildings.

**THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS**

are in good order, and include orchard, kitchen garden, pleasure gardens with flower beds and rockeries, large paddock.

The whole extending to an area of about  
**3 ACRES**

**PRICE £2,600 FREEHOLD**

For particulars and order to view apply  
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**IN A BEAUTIFUL PART OF THE NEW FOREST**

*Occupying an exquisite position amidst charming surroundings and commanding fine open views over the Forest.*

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**ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE**

of sound construction, fitted with all modern conveniences and comforts.

4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS,

SMALL BOUDOIR,

DRESSING ROOM,

BATHROOM,

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,

TILED KITCHEN

and

EXCELLENT OFFICES.



Electric light and main water.

Central heating.

GARAGE.

STABLING.

VINERY. PEACH HOUSE.

**DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS,**

including lawn, productive kitchen garden with orchard.

THE WHOLE COMPRISING AN  
 AREA OF ABOUT  
**ONE ACRE**

**PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD**

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**SOUTH HAMPSHIRE**

*Within a short distance of the Coast and close to the Borders of the beautiful New Forest.*

**TO BE SOLD**

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**NORFOLK REED THATCHED RESIDENCE**

built under the supervision of an eminent Architect, and containing many charming features.

4 GOOD BEDROOMS  
 (3 with basins, hot and cold water).

BATHROOM.

CHARMING DRAWING ROOM.

DINING ROOM.

SUN ROOM  
 (enclosed by sliding glass doors).

HALL. KITCHEN  
 and GOOD OFFICES.



Companies' Gas, Water and Electric Light.

EXCELLENT GARAGE  
 and Greenhouse.

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are well matured and beautifully laid out with lawns, flower borders and grass walks, small productive orchard, kitchen garden, large paddock.

The whole covering an area of about

**5 ACRES**

**PRICE £2,550 FREEHOLD**

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**TO BE LET FURNISHED AND FREEHOLD FOR SALE**  
*Amidst Surrey's most beautiful scenery. Typical of Scottish Highlands. Close to the famous*  
**FRESHAM PONDS AND DEVIL'S JUMPS**

c.4



surrounded by miles of beautiful common land.

**THIS FASCINATING RESIDENCE**

designed by well-known architect, and containing entrance and inner halls, 2 reception rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, complete offices, servants' hall.

GARAGE. STABLING.

Useful Outbuildings.

Co.'s water Electric light. Modern drainage.

2 COTTAGES AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED.

**REALLY BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS**

with first-rate tennis and croquet lawns, herbaceous borders, pergolas, well-stocked kitchen garden, water garden, fives court, woodlands and heatherlands; in all

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intersected by a stream affording trout fishing.

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**WEST SOMERSET**

c.2



*In a beautiful position with a delightful country outlook and views of Blue Anchor Bay. Convenient for Dunster and Minehead.*

**MOST ATTRACTIVE HOUSE**

3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room.

Main water, electricity and drainage.

STABLING. GARAGE. GOOD COTTAGE.

**MATURED GARDENS**

with tennis lawn, kitchen garden, paddock and orchard.

In all about

**5 ACRES**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

OR LETTING UNFURNISHED.

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**BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT**

c.4

*On the outskirts of an Old World Village.*

**FASCINATING LONG LOW HOUSE**

Full of oak beams, open fireplaces, restored and renovated at considerable expense.

Hall, 1 large double sitting room, dining room, 2 ground-floor cloak rooms, 6 bedrooms (with lavatory basins), 3 bathrooms, model offices with "Esse" cooker, model kitchen, "Permutit" water softener, Frigidaire.

LARGE DOUBLE GARAGE

and other useful Outbuildings.

Co.'s electric light and power. Gas. Main water.

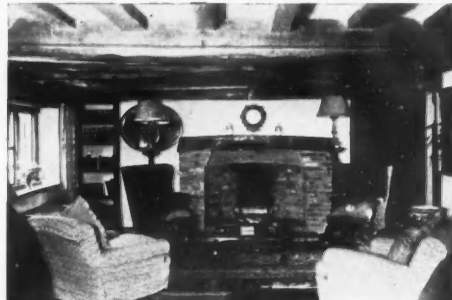
Central heating.

**REALLY BEAUTIFUL GARDENS**

with hard tennis court, kitchen garden, flower beds; in all

**3 ACRES ONLY £3,950**

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**TUDOR COTTAGE IN OLD BERKS**

c.3

*Amidst peaceful surroundings, in the fertile Vale of White Horse in centre unspoilt village, and about 3 miles from Wantage.*

3 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main drainage. Companies' electric light and water.

**WELL LAID-OUT GARDEN**

with flower beds, kitchen garden, etc.

**ABOUT 1 ACRE**

**FREEHOLD, £1,500 FOR QUICK SALE**

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**HOOK HEATH, SURREY** **PRICE FREEHOLD, £5,500**

c.1

**A BUSINESS MAN'S IDEAL**

**DESIRABLE RESIDENCE**

*occupying a pleasant and secluded situation within easy access of shops, Post Office, Churches and Schools.*

Entrance hall, spacious lounge hall, tiled loggia, 4 handsome reception rooms, billiards room, 8 principal bed and dressing rooms, 6 secondary and staff bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices, maids' sitting room.

2 COTTAGES. GARAGE for 2 or 3 cars.

Stabling for 6. Useful Outbuildings.

Co.'s electricity and water. Part central heating. Constant hot water. Modern sanitation.

**BEAUTIFUL MATURED GROUNDS**

with Pasture and Plantations; in all

**ABOUT 13 ACRES**

A FURTHER 19 ACRES ADJOINING CAN BE PURCHASED IF DESIRED.

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SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES

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Telephone: REGENT 2481.

## NORTH SOMERSET £1,700

*Lovely country between the Quantock and Brendon Hills, near village and station. Minehead 11 miles. Taunton 13 miles.*

### PICTURESQUE GEORGIAN HOUSE



*with main electricity, constant hot water, and partial central heating.*

2 reception (each about 25ft. by 14ft.), 7 bedrooms, bath-room.

**GARAGE,** stabling, useful range of buildings.

**ATTRACTIVE OLD GARDENS** with some fine trees. Walled kitchen garden and paddock.

**4½ ACRES**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## W. SUSSEX. BETWEEN GOODWOOD AND THE COAST

*Quiet and peaceful situation. Secluded, but not isolated. Under 2 miles from cathedral city. Easy reach of coast and yachting harbours.*



**Early Georgian FARMHOUSE** of simple origin and charming character.

Enlarged and modernised.

Quaint, low ceilinged sitting hall, drawing room, dining room (both lofty); 5 bedrooms, bathroom.

*Main electricity, gas and water.*

**GARAGE.**

Typical Old English walled-in Garden.

**ABOUT 1½ ACRES**

**FREEHOLD, £2,000**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## A REGENCY HOUSE ON THE HILLS NEAR BATH

*Facing due South, with lovely views.*



**STONE-BUILT COTSWOLD RESIDENCE**

with large sash windows and green shutters; 3 large reception rooms (parquet floors), maids' sitting room, 6 bedrooms (4 with basins), 2 bathrooms; main services; electric radiators. Gardener's cottage; 5 rooms and bath; double garage. Swimming pool.

Tennis lawn, rockery, woodland and pasture.

**3 ACRES. WAR-TIME PRICE. FREEHOLD**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## VIEWS TO CHANCTONBURY RING WEST SUSSEX

*Occupying a lovely secluded position.*

### A SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE



of unusual character with 5-7 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom.

*Main electricity. Central heating throughout.*

Garages and stabling.

Inexpensive garden, 2 orchards, pastureland.

**RATES UNDER £20 P.A.**

**13 ACRES.**

**LOW PRICE**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## AMIDST SURREY'S GRANDEST SCENERY

*600ft. up. Close to such Beauty Spots as Leith Hill and Friday Street.*

**FIVE MILES DORKING AND 50 MINUTES LONDON.**

Well sheltered, on sand soil. Charming labour-saving House of Modern Georgian design. In perfect order.

Spacious hall, cloak room, large lounge, dining room, maids' sitting room or bedroom, 4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom.

*Main electric light and power. Co.'s water.* Fixed wash basins in 3 bedrooms. Septic tank drainage. Exquisitely pretty, well-stocked garden of 1 ACRE.



Close to post office, church, and bus service.

**ONLY £2,500**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## DESIGNED FOR THOSE WITH LIMITED MEANS ON THE SUSSEX HIGHLANDS CLOSE TO THE ASHDOWN FOREST

**A COUNTRY RETREAT ON A COMPACT SCALE**

*600ft. up. Lovely surroundings. Sunny aspect.*

In one of the finest positions in Sussex, practically adjoining a famous golf course. Convenient for shops, post office, station and bus route. The picturesque House was erected 5 years ago. It commands fine views and is equipped with every convenience, including central heating throughout, fitted wash-basins in the bedrooms.

*Main electricity, gas and water.*

3 reception rooms, loggia, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

**GARAGE.**

Really Lovely Gardens. The subject of much care and attention by the owner.

**1½ ACRES FREEHOLD £2,650**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## SURREY AND HANTS BORDERS

*300ft. up, between Farnham and Basingstoke; 37 miles London.*

### CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

in the "modern Georgian" style, approached by a long drive. Artistically decorated, luxuriously appointed and in perfect order; very attractive pillared hall with marble floor, 3 reception with oak floors, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 dressing rooms.

*Main electric light and power. Co.'s water.*

Central heating throughout. Hot and cold water in bedrooms.



Splendid outbuildings. 2 Garages. Inexpensive gardens, 14 acres of woodland and large paddock—let for £20 a year.

**REDUCED TO £5,750. WITH 29 ACRES**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## ON A VILLAGE GREEN

*700ft. up. 4 miles from SEVENOAKS, KENT.*

### A SMALL OLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER

enjoying lovely views, close to bus service and having a pleasant interior with accommodation entirely on two floors. Hall and cloak room, 2-3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, maids' room, usual offices.

*Main water and electricity, central heating.*

Garage and Stabling with rooms over.

Secluded old English Garden.

**ABOUT ¼ ACRE.**



**FREEHOLD ONLY £2,300**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

# F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES  
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: REGENT 2481.

## IN A DOWNLAND VILLAGE OF SUSSEX

70 MINUTES LONDON via SOUTHERN ELECTRIC.  
Within easy reach of Haywards Heath, Lewes and Brighton.



FOR SALE AT £3,950

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

THE HOME OF  
AN ARTIST.  
A characteristic old-  
fashioned VILLAGE  
HOUSE in a matured  
and secluded garden  
with tennis court.

¾ ACRE.  
All main services.  
Lounge hall, 2 recep-  
tion, large oak-floored  
studio, 9 bedrooms,  
2 bathrooms.  
DOUBLE  
GARAGE.  
Air-raid shelter in  
garden.

## SOMERSET BEAUTY SPOT

CHEDDAR AND WESTON-SUPER-MARE (between)  
HISTORIC STONE-BUILT HOUSE

Originally forming  
part of ancient Abbey.  
Outskirts of pretty  
village with views to  
Welsh hills. Golf,  
hunting, rough shoot-  
ing, fishing. Accom-  
modation: L-shaped  
hall, 3 large reception,  
6 bedrooms, 2 bath-  
rooms, fitted wash  
basins. Old-world  
features, yet carefully  
modernised in ex-  
cellent taste. Main  
water, electric light  
and gas. Two garages,  
courtyard, and stab-  
ling. Walled-in  
gardens, tennis court,  
orchard, and turfed  
lawns.



2 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

JUST IN THE MARKET AT TEMPTING PRICE  
Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## A DELIGHTFUL SURREY HOME ADJOINING GOLF COURSE

35 MINUTES FROM LONDON BY SOUTHERN ELECTRIC

In a picturesque and well-wooded district on high ground, but well sheltered, with extensive views over a section of the "Green Belt."



An extremely well-built pre-war House in just  
over an Acre of

LOVELY WELL-STOCKED GARDENS

including tennis court.

ENTRANCE HALL AND CLOAKROOM.

3 RECEPTION. 7 BEDROOMS.

2 WELL-APPOINTED TILED BATHROOMS.

GARAGE for 2.

Tasteful decorations. Every comfort and convenience.

"Aga" cooker. Main electric light and power.

Company's gas and water.

CENTRAL HEATING.

RUNNING WATER IN BEDROOMS.

£3,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## 16 MILES LONDON. NEUTRAL AREA SURREY

ADJOINING A NOTED GOLF COURSE.



A luxuriously ap-  
pointed modern  
HOUSE of distinctive  
architecture. Work-  
able with minimum  
of staff and in perfect  
order. Lounge (23ft.  
by 21ft.), 2 other  
reception rooms,  
model kitchen quar-  
ters, 6 bedrooms, 3  
bathrooms. Polished  
oak floors, oak stair-  
case and panelling.  
Central heating; hot  
and cold water in  
bedrooms; main  
drainage; electricity,  
gas and water.

Hard tennis court.

Delightful Gardens of about an Acre and a Half. 2 Garages.

FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION AT A MODERATE PRICE.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## NORTHWOOD. 30 MINUTES LONDON A PERFECTLY APPOINTED LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE



Fitted with every  
modern comfort for  
easy running.  
Connected with all  
main services and  
equipped with a com-  
plete and efficient  
system of central heat-  
ing; also running  
water (h. and c.) in  
bedrooms.

5 bedrooms, 2 elegant  
modern bathrooms  
(one communicating  
with master's bed-  
room), 3 reception  
rooms with oak par-  
quet floors.

Heated Garage.

MOST ATTRACTIVE WELL-STOCKED GARDEN OF ½ ACRE.  
Moor Park and Sandy Lodge Golf Courses within easy reach. Under 10 minutes' walk  
from station and shops.

AN OUTSTANDING BARGAIN AT £3,750 FREEHOLD

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## AN EXTREMELY COMFORTABLE GEORGIAN HOUSE

In a favourite Hertfordshire Village. Near Bishop's Stortford. 40 minutes from London.  
Square hall, 3 or 4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 attics.

Company's gas and  
water.  
Main drainage.  
Main electricity  
available.  
GARAGE.  
STABLING.  
MAN'S ROOM.  
Gravel soil.

PEACEFUL  
OLD-WORLD  
GARDENS  
with tennis and other  
lawns, small spinney  
and orchard.  
VALUABLE ROAD  
FRONTAGE.



1½ ACRES FREEHOLD

PRICE £2,500 OPEN TO OFFER FOR IMMEDIATE SALE  
Ideal as a Private Dwelling House, Doctor's House, Nursing  
Home or Small School

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## A DELIGHTFUL BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HOME

In an extremely pretty setting, quiet and secluded. Adjacent to well-known golf course.  
30 minutes from London.

MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE in the Georgian style

Artistic lounge-hall,  
2 reception rooms,  
loggia, 7 bed and  
dressing rooms, 2 ele-  
gant bathrooms (one  
with enclosed shower).  
Plenty of oak panelling  
and beams.  
Open fireplaces and  
polished oak floors.  
Main electric light  
and power.  
Company's gas and  
water.  
Detached Garage.  
Gravel soil.

INEXPENSIVE  
BUT ATTRAC-  
TIVE GARDENS



1 ACRE FREEHOLD

MODERATE PRICE FOR SPEEDY SALE

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES  
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: REGENT 2481.

### SOMERSET. IN A GLORIOUS POSITION ON THE MENDIP HILLS

7 MILES WELLS. 12 MILES BRISTOL. 14 MILES BATH. 2 HOURS LONDON.

#### THIS FINE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

occupies a situation difficult to equal, 380ft. above sea level, well protected from the North winds and commanding magnificent views.

CONVENIENT CENTRE FOR WEST OF ENGLAND, SOUTH WALES AND THE MIDLANDS.

HUNTING. GOLF. FISHING

#### THE FREEHOLD COUNTRY HOUSE OF MEDIUM SIZE

is stone-built with stone-mullioned windows.



3 RECEPTION ROOMS,  
OAK-PANELLED BILLIARD ROOM,  
OAK-PANELLED LIBRARY,  
11 BEDROOMS, 2 DRESSING ROOMS,  
4 BATHROOMS.

Central heating throughout.  
Electric light. Excellent water supply.

CARRIAGE DRIVE APPROACH  
LINED WITH TALL LIME TREES.

STABLING AND GARAGE ACCOMMODATION. CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT.  
2 Cottages.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS  
tennis and croquet lawns, rockeries,  
orchard, woodland and pastures.

50 ACRES

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.

#### THE WHOLE FORMING A COMPACT AND INEXPENSIVE MINIATURE ESTATE

Illustrated particulars from the Agents, F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

### HERTFORDSHIRE. 3 MILES FROM THE CITY OF ST. ALBANS

DELIGHTFUL RURAL POSITION. ON HIGH GROUND. ON GRAVEL SOIL WITH FINE SOUTHERLY VIEWS.

30 minutes by rail from St. Pancras.

ADJOINING A LARGE FARM OF  
ABOUT  
1,000 ACRES IN EXTENT.

#### A DIGNIFIED RESIDENCE of attractive architectural style

Approached by a 300 yards drive with  
superior Lodge at entrance.

The accommodation comprises:

11 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS,  
4 RECEPTION ROOMS,  
MAIDS' SITTING ROOM.

"Aga" cooker.  
Central heating. Main electric light.



#### ENTRANCE LODGE

GARDENER'S COTTAGE. GARAGE  
AND STABLING ACCOMMODATION.

FARM BUILDINGS.

#### THE PLEASURE GROUNDS

are well timbered and in good order.

2 TENNIS COURTS.

WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN GARDEN.  
MEADOWLAND.

Extending in all to about

12 ACRES

#### HUNTING. TWO GOLF COURSES WITHIN EASY REACH. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Illustrated particulars from the Agents, F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. ON THE CHILTERN HILLS

40 MINUTES FROM LONDON.

A CHARMING RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITH VALUABLE BUILDING LAND

#### FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

550ft. above sea level.

1½ miles from the important town of  
High Wycombe.

Easy reach of Amersham, Beaconsfield,  
Reading and Oxford.

The well-planned Freehold Country  
Residence of medium size is approached  
by a drive.



The accommodation comprises: 3 reception  
rooms, including handsome double drawing  
room, 6-8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Central heating.

Main electric light and power.

Company's water. "Aga" cooker.

GARAGE AND STABLING.

2 COTTAGES.

INEXPENSIVE  
PLEASURE GROUNDS.

The whole property extends to about 33 ACRES, including parkland, orchard and woodlands.

PRESENTING EXCELLENT FACILITIES FOR A PROFITABLE DEVELOPMENT

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

(For continuation of F. L. MERCER & Co.'s advertisements see pages xiv. and xv.)

### ON THE GLORIOUS NORTH WALES COAST IN A SUNNY POSITION FACING SOUTH.

TO BE LET OR WOULD BE SOLD

#### PINEWOOD TOWER, CONWAY

THIS DELIGHTFUL PROPERTY stands in about 4 ACRES of GROUNDS, away from the main road—  
commands extensive views over Snowdon Range, Conway Valley, etc. GOLF, FISHING, BOATING  
VERY NEAR.

Accommodation: 7 BEDROOMS, 3 ENTERTAINING ROOMS, LARGE ENTRANCE LOUNGE, 2 BATHROOMS  
AND LAVATORIES, LARGE KITCHEN AND SERVANTS' HALL, BUTLER'S PANTRY.

OUTSIDE LAUNDRY AND FRUIT STORES. GARAGE (2 cars).

GAS. WATER. SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS PERFECT.

FURTHER LAND AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED.

Apply for full particulars to:

HAROLD SMITH & CO., HIGH STREET, PRESTATYN, NORTH WALES  
(Telephone: PRESTATYN 47.)

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Box numbers, 6d. extra for half-an-inch or less, space thus occupied being charged as part of the advertisement.

Blocks reproducing photographs of properties can be made at a charge of 11d. per square inch, with a minimum charge of 13/4.

For further particulars apply Advertisement Department,  
"Country Life," Tower House, Southampton Street,  
Strand, London, W.C.2.

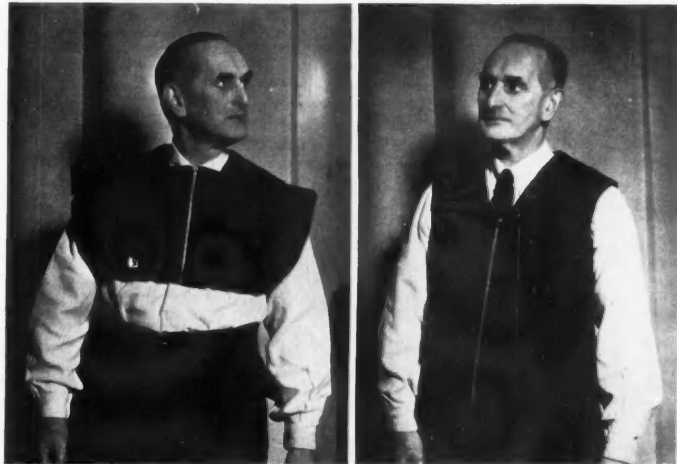


# MATTERS OF THE MOMENT

IT seems rather far-fetched to associate volcanoes with something created to increase the safety of sailors and travellers by sea in these dangerous days, and yet the connection is not really very exiguous. The "Fortmason" Life-saving Waistcoat, which is illustrated here, happens to be filled with quilted kapok, which is pure Java kapok in blanket form. This is the most buoyant of all known materials, about five times as buoyant as cork and, submerged, has a carrying capacity of thirty times its own weight. The weight of an average man in sea water is nine pounds, and thus a mere five ounces of kapok would support him. The waistcoat contains twelve ounces in "Tropical" form. It is as warm as fur and yet quite light; it is porous and therefore does not give rise to condensation, and can be worn night and day with perfect comfort. It is also constructed in such a way that if it becomes torn or damaged the quilted kapok still retains its correct position and distribution and the waistcoat is still fully effective. Over and above all these things the Life-saving Waistcoat does not in the least look like one, and the ordinary man who hates to appear at all out-of-the-way can wear it in mental comfort as well as full confidence. The Ministry of Shipping has tested the waistcoat and strongly recommends it as an additional appliance. Finally, what of volcanoes? That marvellous tropical tree the kapok, which promises to revolutionise our ideas as to bed-coverings, refrigeration, winter overcoats, airmen's suits, and a hundred other matters, grows in its finest quality in volcanic soil.

## LAWN TENNIS WITHOUT UPKEEP

One of the things to which the war has made no difference is the importance of keeping fit, a point on which public opinion has been growing more and more defined in recent years. The determination to encourage national fitness was one of the many reasons why, before war was declared, the En-Tout-Cas Company, Limited, Syston, Leicester, were making as many as a thousand hard lawn tennis and squash courts in a year. The war, of course, has almost put an end to the installation of hard courts by private individuals, but a number of orders for them have been received from sports grounds, Militia camps, miners' welfare grounds, and for various aerodromes. Besides this, the last eight or ten years has seen the En-Tout-Cas Company very busy carrying out contracts for the making of landing-grounds and in designing and erecting buildings required as aerodromes. An increase in this work has naturally taken place, and most of the Company's hundred or more expert foremen are still employed. Widely known as the work of this firm—perhaps the largest contractors for this sort of work in the world—the particular aim of their researches in recent years has perhaps not been appreciated; that has been to perfect a hard tennis court with height and bound comparable with those of a good turf court and always ready for play at any time in the year, without any



(Right) THE NEW FORTMASON LIFE-SAVING WAISTCOAT  
(Left) AS IT CAN INSTANTLY BE TURNED UP FOR FLOATING  
(Fortnum and Mason, Piccadilly, W.1)

upkeep beyond occasionally painting the lines. All this has been achieved in their latest production, the En-Tout-Cas "Non Pareil" No-upkeep Lawn Tennis Court. Anyone interested who is in London can obtain particulars at the Company's London office, Messrs. Fortnum and Mason's (third floor), 182, Piccadilly, W.1.

## LOVELY LINENS

The war affects life in all sorts of surprising ways, but perhaps one should have expected—as a great deal of linen is being used in Army work and much of the flax from which it is made comes from the Baltic provinces—a rise in the price of linens and the possibility of a shortage. At the moment, it is good to know that the makers of the famous "Old Bleach" Linens, though they have been obliged to increase the price of their 36in. width to 5s. 11d. a yard, can still supply them in a full range of fast colours and in the same reliable quality as in the past. Whether for dresses or curtains, where their lovely fadeless colours are a great asset, or for needlework—and they rejoice the embroideress by the evenness of their threads and their great durability—there is nothing better to be got. "Old Bleach" Linens are guaranteed unconditionally, and if a piece should give any dissatisfaction it will not only be replaced but the cost of making it up refunded. This is the measure of the makers' confidence! It will interest some COUNTRY LIFE readers, perhaps, now that lace is coming so much into fashion, to know that the Old Bleach Linen Company, Limited, Randalstown, Northern Ireland, have a lace mounting service where it can be expertly dealt with.

## SOLUTION to No. 531

The winner of this crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of Mar. 30th, will be announced next week.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS  
ANNUAL AIT I  
RAREBIT LANDING  
ROOST TIT GILN  
OILS JUDAS TIPS  
WLS C S P S O  
INSHORE HERSELF  
N L I T  
FARRIER MUDBATH  
UI DE A E V E  
RUSH AGENT VERT  
NOP A S R N I  
ENTREAT AMALGAM  
ST T A T R S E E  
STOCKS AND SHARES

## ACROSS.

- Crews or those that send them to sea? (two words, 5, 9)
- He disappeared with the coach (6)
- It's consumed in the smoke (7)
- A cape need not necessarily have a hood for it (4)
- It increases the newspaper reader's fare (10)
- A letter for the talent not loaned (5)
- Not an energetic doctor (8)
- He has desired no deed (3)
- A tub tale (not Swift's) to set in order (8)
- Christmas and Easter, for instance (5)
- "An inner cut" (anagr.) (10)
- What May always is in town? (4)
- St. Thomas not Becket (6)
- Clearly not sea, though in it (6)
- They often alter a first impression (two words, 6, 8)

## DOWN.

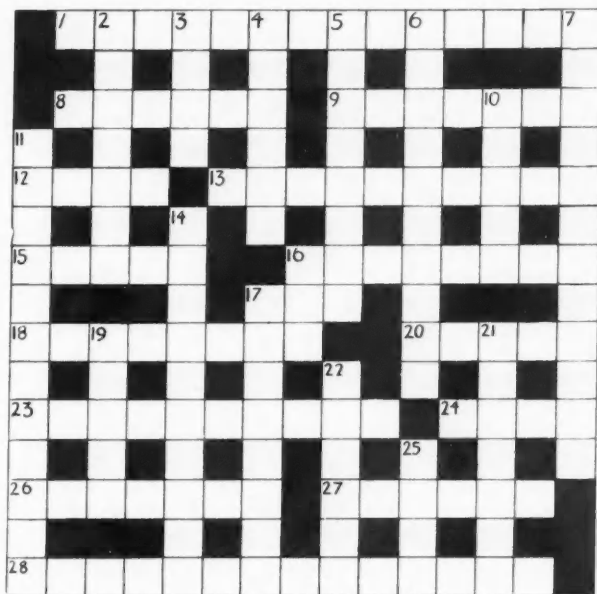
- Years make the entertainer become an unwilling guest (7)
- Knock up friends (4)
- It will be no performance with Oxford or Cambridge leading (6)
- "A hot perm" (anagr.) (8)
- Cut down (10)
- A foot eleven inches long (two words, 5, 7)
- A hill-top gives a hundred repose (5)
- In the bird parade they might come between blackcaps and redbreasts (12)
- Pet weight in the north (10)
- The noise of marching? (8)
- Forbid little Joseph the instrument (5)
- Is there a catch in it? Granted for a change (7)
- Colour in which I enter with five hundred (6)
- There's something slimy in his luggage (4)

## "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 532

A prize of books to the value of 2 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 532, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the **first post on the morning of Thursday, April 11th, 1940.**

The winner of Crossword No. 530 is Mrs. Kemp, Walters Cottage, Sunningdale

## "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 532



Name .....

Address .....



THE OUTLOOK

In the Spring colours of the chaffinch and the golden crested wren, with check crossings of boucle yarn.

MANY readers are familiar with the trade slogan "Country Life Wear" and have probably enjoyed the comfort of Coats, Suits and Sports clothing sold under that brand by all the best Houses in the Provinces and London. These are still obtainable at prices ranging from 5½ to 8½ guineas and are unsurpassable for value and comfort. Many staunch friends of C. L. W. are now in work of National importance and will wear the uniform of the Auxiliary Corps which they have joined. We wish them a strengthening of their faith which will carry the Allies to Victory.

"COUNTRY  
LIFE  
Wear"

Regd.



IMPORTANT

Write for Illustrated Brochure in Colour and name of nearest Stockist

Issued by

JOHN BURNETT & CO., LTD.

24 - 25, PRINCES STREET, HANOVER SQ., LONDON

Telephone: MAYFAIR 3102 3

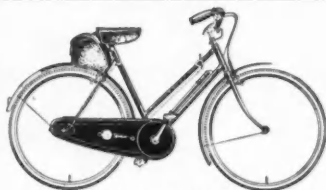
# CHOOSE A SUNBEAM AND BE PROUD OF IT!

Petrol rationing might have seriously upset us, living as we do a few miles from the town, for we had grown accustomed to using the car for all our local journeys, shopping and social calls. Luckily I invested in a SUNBEAM Bicycle, and I find that I can do all my local travelling on this with ease and comfort and with distinct benefit to my health—saving our precious petrol rations for our longer journeys.

I chose a SUNBEAM because for 50 years the SUNBEAM has had an outstanding reputation, and I have proved from my own experience, that the little extra which the SUNBEAM costs is more than justified.

My bicycle with its patent 'Little oil-bath' gearcase runs sweetly and easily, day in and day out without any attention, for all the working parts are bathed in oil. The famous SUNBEAM finish, of course, ensures that with just an occasional clean down, the machine always looks smart and, no matter where I may go, I have the pleasant knowledge that my SUNBEAM is recognised as the best bicycle which money can buy.

For  
war-time  
travel



SUNBEAM SILVER LIGHT TOURIST  
Model L.W.3.

Fitted with the famous little oil-bath gearcase, 3-speed gear and Sunbeam patent caliper brakes. Price £8 11. 9.

AN PRODUCT

Sunbeam Bicycles are not sold by every Bicycle Dealer, for Sunbeam Dealers are carefully selected to ensure that every present or prospective Sunbeam owner shall have at his service, in his own locality, the impartial advice and experienced skill of a real cycle expert. In all matters concerning your bicycle, take the advice of your local Sunbeam dealer. If you don't know his address post the coupon to-day.



If you are a car owner use a Sunbeam bicycle for shorter trips and save your petrol for use on your longer and more important journeys.

COUPON CL-6-4

To SUNBEAM BICYCLES, 44, Plumstead Road, London, S.E.18

Please send me the Sunbeam Bicycle Catalogue and name of nearest authorised Sunbeam Dealer.

Name .....

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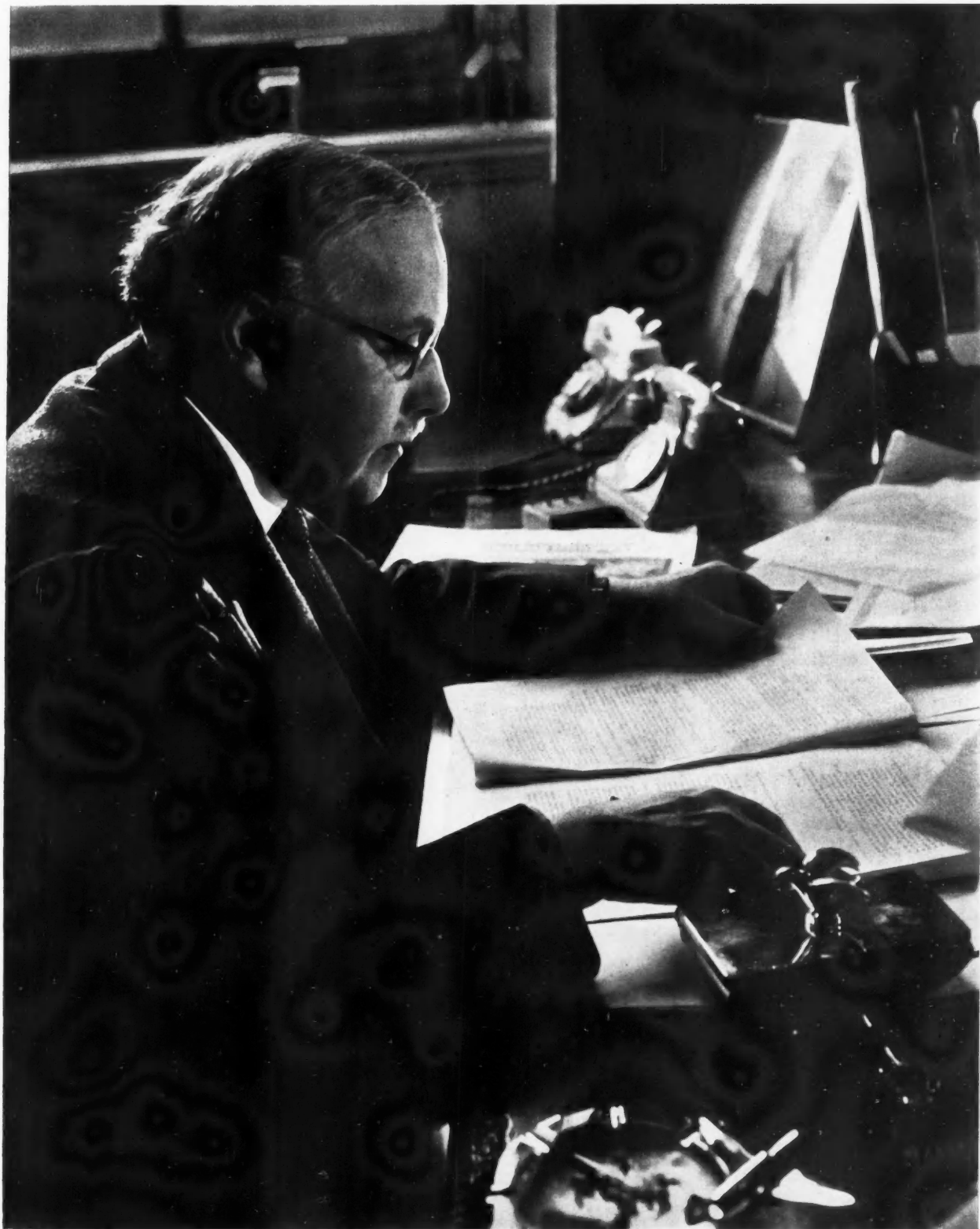
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# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. LXXXVII.—No. 2255.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, 1940.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.  
POSTAGES: INLAND 1½d., CANADA 1½d., ABROAD 2½d.



Cecil Beaton

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## THE RIGHT HON. SIR KINGSLEY WOOD AT THE AIR MINISTRY

The Secretary of State for Air, whose portrait forms the first of a series of British war leaders specially taken for "Country Life" by Mr. Cecil Beaton, was appointed in 1938 in order to harness his boundless energy and capacity for organisation to the drive for re-armament. Our immense and growing air power to-day is the measure of his success. Unionist Member for Woolwich West since 1918, a solicitor by training, and a leading member of the Wesleyan connexion, Sir Kingsley Wood was largely responsible in 1918 for the establishment of the Ministry of Health, of which he himself was a memorable Chief (1935-38). Previously his long service as Postmaster-General (1931-35) initiated a remarkable period of expansion and initiative. Among the historic measures due to him are the Early Closing Act (1920) and Summer Time (1924).



# COUNTRY LIFE

OFFICES : 2-10, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.2.

Telegrams : "COUNTRY LIFE." LONDON : Tele. No. : TEMPLE BAR 7351  
Advertisements : TOWER HOUSE, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, W.C.2  
Tele. No. : TEMPLE BAR 4363

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## A CRITIC OF THE PLOUGH

IN the recent debate in the House of Commons on the success of the Government's food production campaign there were many complaints that the wrong policy had been adopted, but few suggestions that the actual policy of the Government was not being effectively carried out. So long as the Labour Party holds its original doctrines, it will be impossible to convince those Members who sit in Opposition that anything short of land nationalisation will achieve increased production, either in peace or war. Mr. Lloyd George too, remembering the way in which, with Lord Ernle's help, he breathed life into the moribund shape of British agriculture in 1917, will go on refusing to believe that any effort of the present Government cannot be made ten times more effective by the adoption of a great national scheme of reclamation. We have ourselves, for many years before the war, criticised the policy of successive Governments, deplored the slowness with which they brought themselves to adopt a "two-way" programme which envisaged the alternatives of peace and war, and met those alternatives by the only sane policy—promoting fertility, stabilising the farming industry and, within the time limits set them, increasing home production to the utmost. Readers of our series "Towards an Agricultural Policy" and "Farming Restored," will remember that Mr. Christopher Turnor and other leading authorities urged measures to anticipate precisely the present state of affairs. Unfortunately, that policy was not adopted, but we have, most of us, accepted the assurances of the Minister that, at any rate since the beginning of last September, Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith and his henchmen on the county agricultural committees have been winning all along the line.

It was therefore with amazement, if not consternation, that readers of *The Times* the other day found themselves regaled by Mr. A. P. McDougall with an apparently damning criticism of all that the Ministry of Agriculture has done, or tried to do, since the outbreak of war. He maintained that, assuming 1,200,000 acres of the Government's ploughing programme are in fact seeded, "the total increased value of food" (allowing for the reduction of the value in the livestock raised) will be £3,427,000, or, at present values,

little more than 1 per cent. of our output. "Of all our requirements, home and imported, it does not represent .004, or sufficient food for a day and a half." In reaching this astounding result Mr. McDougall not only overlooked the fact that 1,370,000 acres had actually been ploughed by March 15th, in spite of the worst winter on record, and a great deal more will be ploughed by the end of April. He then made the mistake, as the Minister has since pointed out, of calculating war-time production on the basis of money values rather than food values. "Surely," says Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith—and it is impossible to disagree with him—"it is well known that food in the form of livestock products is more costly per unit than food in the form of crops. Our concern is to get *increased production* [our italics], both for human beings and animals. from our own soil"—not to increase the monetary value of products raised. Mr. McDougall went on to allege that "except for the ploughing-up campaign, nothing has been done." Yet guaranteed prices and guaranteed markets have been established precisely to maintain the livestock output and to make it pay to farm to higher standards. Nor did this critic mention the grants for drainage and the pre-war grants for lime and basic slag for the reclamation of derelict grasslands. As farms that had become dairy and sheep pastures are put back to arable, so it will be possible and remunerative to increase the head of stock on the upland pastures.

Mr. McDougall accused the Government of supplying only 6,000 tractors of the 20,000 required. The Minister points out that there were 53,000 tractors at work last June, and that some 70,000 will be available by this summer. It may well be that farmers could do with a good many more. But, even in war-time, there is a limit to the scope available for tractors in many districts, as Mr. Hayter-Hames pointed out recently in connection with Devonshire, where small fields and steep hills predominate. Incidentally, we may remark that our Survey, "The Farmer's War," lends little colour to the allegation that the county war agricultural committees are not already ahead of their programme in many cases. It is misleading to say, as Lord Astor has, that many of our best experts, both technical and local, have been side-tracked by the war agricultural committees—the one group teem in Whitehall, and the other compose the personnel of the committees. Lord Astor, in accusing the Ministry of having taken no steps to increase grassland output by artificial manuring, appears to have forgotten the lime and basic slag subsidy, of which very great use has been made and is being made in areas such as Wales, where ploughing for cereals is of secondary importance. These rejoinders are not to imply that all is perfect. Far from it. But, under immense difficulties, a great effort is being made and a new spirit of keenness and enterprise emanates from the Ministry. Of Mr. McDougall's criticisms, that drawing attention to the growing shortage of labour is alone, we believe, uncontroversial, and there he seems to have overlooked the existence of the Women's Land Army, who, in spite of not having been required to any great extent at first, are already beginning to repeat the feats of their predecessors in the last war.

## BIRDS, EVACUEES, AND FOOD

AFTER six months in the country the benefit that evacuated children have derived from good air and fare has to be seen to be believed. They have also discovered the delight of recognising birds and beasts at home and, being children, of collecting whatever catches their notice. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, with the approval of the Board of Education, has been prompt to seize the opportunity to turn these natural impulses in the right direction. The Society already gives prizes to country elementary school-children for essays under its Bird and Tree scheme. This is now to be extended to include evacuated children. They, or their teachers, would incidentally find much of interest in a little book just published, "How to See Nature," by Miss Frances Pitt. The immediate purpose of the R.S.P.B. is to bring home the connection between birds eggs, the destruction of insect pests, and food production : "An egg

FOLK DANCERS IN THE MARKET  
PLACE AT THAXTED

stolen is a loaf lost" (or thereabouts). But isn't it odd that there should be a Society for this admirable, limited object, but no attempt should be made to help the children understand *why* they are becoming so big and strong: because they are now getting fresh vegetables, milk, fresh fruit, and good meat? It is nice that they should become fond of birds and trees. But it is vital to the future of the race that they should never again slip back into the appalling dietary vices of urban civilisation.

## FOLKS AND BLOKES

SIR WALFORD DAVIS'S delightful attempts over the air to get some of the old English folk tunes taken up as marching songs by the troops deserve, if they do not suggest, success. Many have grand rhythm and jolly tunes, but, whether it is the very simplicity and sweetness of their cadence, the old folk songs generally lack something that is present in what may be called the bloke song. Ditties like "Mademoiselle from Armentieres" and others of more recent if equally obscure origin are crude compared with, say, "The Blue-eyed Stranger," but their raucous or doleful notes seem in the right key for these days, while Cecil Sharpe's recovered melodies do not. Perhaps it requires some degree of sophistication to enjoy folk melodies, or are the old songs of sailing ship and ploughland not sophisticated enough for town-bred blokes doped by the crooner and Wurlitzer organ? In any case, where folk song and dance flourish in England to-day, it is either among genuine rustics or else the educated middle class. At Thaxted there is now an annual Easter Monday folk-dance festival, which was duly held last week in the Market Place. But it is of quite modern institution and, judging from the participants and their beautifully decorated clothes, owes more to the local intelligentsia than to the saloon bar—which ought to be the home of real folk—that is bloke—music.

## HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL . . .

I know of a wood by a long hill's brink,  
Of a chequered vale spread out below,  
The fairest in England, so I think;  
If I close my eyes I can picture now  
Splashes white amid specks of pink,  
Marking where men and horses go  
Who love to follow the verdant track  
Of a fleeting fox and a flying pack.

Memories fair of pleasures sane  
Are precious things in a world gone mad;  
So may we, dreaming, live again  
The days we loved and the fun we had;  
And waking, strive, that we may regain  
Our loves that were; when a world betrayed  
Shall reckon faithfully, once for all,  
With a faithless German corporal.

G. W. L. MEREDITH.

## SPORT IN BRITISH ART

IN three weeks' time Mr. Arthur Gilbey's collection of books, paintings, drawings and prints connected with angling is to be disposed of at Christie's. Old Sir Walter, his father, who no doubt engendered his passion for collecting, was, as everybody knows, passionately devoted to the horse. His son took to the rod. Mr. Walter Shaw Sparrow, whose death early this month meant a great loss to the systematic study of British sporting art, and a truly sad one to those colleagues and admirers who shared his enthusiasms for all the pursuits of the open air, used to say that his own work would have been impossible had he not been able to draw, so far as angling was concerned, upon the mine of information and illustration which Mr. Gilbey's collection provided. Shaw Sparrow, who contributed many articles dealing with British sporting art and artists to these pages, was a most serious and scientific student of his subject. His motto, as he said, was "Go and Find Out!"—a piece of wisdom originally attributed by Mr. Kipling to the mongoose. "British Sporting Artists," "Angling in British Art," and "A Book of Sporting Painters" showed how much such systematic research



could accomplish. Incidentally, Shaw Sparrow kept very closely in touch with another contributor to COUNTRY LIFE, Mr. C. M. Prior, whose historical researches on the Racing Calendar and bloodstock are familiar to all students, and who died only ten days later. The two were almost exactly of an age, and, though they never met, shared each other's tastes and knowledge about their special subject of sporting pictures. When Mr. Prior was told of Mr. Sparrow's death, "I must be about the only one left," he said, "who still knows and cares for these things."

## THE FIFTY-ONE STEPS

SHERLOCK HOLMES reproached Watson with seeing but not observing, on the ground of his not knowing how many steps there were at their Baker Street home. He would doubtless have known that there were fifty-one steps from the platform of Sloane Square station to the street level. Most of us have only been able to take our oaths to the fact that there were a great many and can now rejoice that there is an escalator. That blessed invention we connect in our minds with the stations of the still modern Tube and not with the dear old Underground, but the ascent at Sloane Square was a little too long, and we shall feel few regrets at doing without it. In the matter of observation, many people who know the station sufficiently well may be ashamed to find that they have seen with wholly unobserving eyes the iron conduit not so very many feet above the platform. Through it runs that "lost" London river the Westbourne, which is still to be seen above ground in the Serpentine and ends its generally subterranean course in the Thames near Chelsea Bridge. That sentimental attraction of the station the escalator cannot take from us.

## WHY NOT SUMMER SHOWS?

THE country calendar has been robbed of one of its most attractive events by the banning, for no obvious reason, of point-to-point meetings. Now it seems that many country shows are not to be held this summer. This is surely an excessive measure of economy, for shows can be held quite as easily as race meetings, and in some cases they attract just as large a crowd. No doubt under present conditions it would not always be possible to run a large show, though it might be quite practical politics to do so in a central area. The old country show, which Rowlandson pictured and of which "The Druid" wrote so charmingly, is quite capable of being held. It would be pastoral in conception and simple in actual fact. There is no doubt that it would be supported by the farming community in general, and of course its proceeds would be devoted to war charities. Such was the case in the last war, when Richmond staged a show, and in the present one, when Mr. Sam Marsh gave the lead by his recent show at Edenbridge.



## A COUNTRYMAN LOOKS AT THE WAR

THE RETURN OF THE CAVALRY  
—BARON VON STOHRER AND  
THE AIR FORCE—THE MEDALS  
THAT WENT ASTRAY—EASTER  
FISHING

By MAJOR C. S. JARVIS

THE VALLEY OF THE  
EXE AT BICKLEIGH



THE news that a mounted division is being formed for service in the East if necessary will be welcomed by those retired cavalry officers who, on their return to their regiments, have found the new order of things neither to their liking nor their understanding. There should be no difficulty whatsoever in finding all the experienced officers required for the new division, and among them will be many who took part in those brilliant cavalry manoeuvres on Palestine's plains that contributed so much to Allenby's victories.

Among the Anzacs serving somewhere east or west of Suez (the Censor is so particular about mentioning localities, one hesitates to admit that there is such a place as Suez or that there is a Canal there) are several who served in the Light Horse during the last war, and I understand that some veterans have been on an expedition to locate the exact bit of desert across which they charged in 1917 when Beersheba fell in the dusk of an autumn evening. This I know from experience is a most difficult thing to do after a period of years, as the contours of the desert appear to change, and I have never been able to recognise the tract of undulating sand at Khan Yunis where G.H.Q. under Allenby lived in hutments for so many months before the third battle of Gaza.

THE charge by the Australian Light Horse on October 31st, 1917, was not carried out in the best cavalry tradition, because the Australians were mounted infantry and, being supposed to fight on foot, had no swords! There was, however, only one hour of daylight left, and Beersheba, the key of the position with its wells, was still in the hands of the Turks after a long day of fighting; and so General Chauvel ordered the 4th and 12th Regiments of Light Horse to charge the trenches at a gallop with drawn bayonets in their hands.

It was a brilliant, if unusual, manoeuvre. The Australians, yelling as only Australians can yell, went slap through two lines of trenches and galloped straight into the town, where they surprised several columns of the enemy, capturing prisoners, guns and transport and, what was most important, seizing the wells before the Turks could destroy them. As the charge upset the traditions of two branches of the Service—the infantry, who never charge mounted; and the cavalry, who do it with the sword or lance—there was only one thing to be done, and that was to turn the Light Horse as quickly as possible into cavalry and arm them with the sword.

IN one of the daily newspapers I saw a photograph of the German Ambassador to Spain, Baron von Stohrer, attending a religious ceremony in Madrid, and in the next chair to him was seated Marshal Pétain, the French Ambassador. It would seem that the official responsible for the seating arrangements had either a Puckish sense of humour or belonged to the "peace at any price" party.

I wonder what Baron von Stohrer's views are with regard to the present war, for when he was German Minister in Cairo he was one of the most popular of the foreign representatives and moved almost exclusively in the British set. He must in any case entertain a very warm spot in his heart for the Royal Air Force, as but for them he would not be alive to-day, but would instead be lying out somewhere in the Saharan dunes.

In 1936 Baron von Stohrer took part in a car race to the oasis of Baharia in the Libyan Desert, which was organised by the local automobile club to take place in the early days of May—an unhappy selection, as this is the period when sandstorms accompanied by a burning southerly gale are usual. Shortly after the cars had started on their 180 miles run across the desert a violent sandstorm blew up, blotting out all visibility, and at the end of the day, when the cars were marshalled in the oasis, it was found that the German Minister had failed to arrive. Car patrols from the British and Egyptian Armies were sent out at

once to make a search, and as the missing car could not be found the services of the Royal Air Force were enlisted. For the next eight days every available machine in the country was engaged in a constant patrol over the sand desert west of Cairo, and, as the weather for the whole time continued to be intensely hot, all hope that the Baron would be found alive was abandoned after a week. On the eighth day of the search, however, a solitary plane sighted the German Minister standing by his derelict car in a stretch of rough limestone country some forty miles on the western side of the Baharia. In the dense sandstorm he had overshot the oasis altogether and had continued to drive on to the west until his petrol ran out. He had managed to keep alive by drinking the rusty water from his radiator, but the last drop had gone, and he was near the end when the Air Force came down to his rescue.

SOME very natural embarrassment must be felt by the German pilot who received two decorations for sinking the *Ark Royal* now that this great aircraft-carrier is on view in a home port. She is such a very large vessel that it is quite impossible to miss seeing her, though apparently it is quite possible to miss bombing her. It is still difficult to understand why this officer received two medals for one exploit, and we can only conclude that he was backed, or rather decorated, both ways—one iron cross for hitting the *Ark Royal* and the other for missing her. If this is the case, honour will be satisfied if he returns only one to store and retains the other.

He is not the first person to receive a medal under a misapprehension, for there is the time-honoured story of an Allied Power during the last war which expressed the wish to bestow decorations on selected officers of the British Army. The ribbon of the medal was a very attractive one, providing a bright spot of colour to set off a long row, and there were many staff competitors for the honour, but when the decorations arrived there was some consternation, for not one of the selected officers was mentioned. When enquiries were made it was discovered that an H.Q. clerk had made a clerical error. He had sent to the Allied Power not the roll of officers recommended for the decoration, but a return showing the names of those who had not been inoculated against para-typhoid.

CONTRARY to expectations, fishing inns—particularly those in the west and south-west of England—did not suffer in any way from either the war or the very unfavourable weather during the Easter holidays. The one I visited, the Fisher's Cot at Bickleigh on the Exe, was filled up by members of all branches of the Services, for both the Army and the Royal Air Force were represented when I arrived and the Navy turned up shortly afterwards. Fishing is perhaps the most satisfying and restful of all sports during war-time, for it is a pursuit that occupies the mind to the total exclusion of everything else, and during the last occasion the doctors, who had to deal with nerve and shell-shock cases, regarded fishermen as their simplest problems, for a holiday on a loch or river resulted usually in a rapid and complete cure.

There is a saying on the Upper Exe that the salmon arrive with the cuckoo, but this year, possibly owing to heavy flood water, the fish has beaten the bird, and salmon are already on the run upwards, but the cuckoo has not yet been reported. Farther east in Dorset and Hampshire the fish have been on the move for some time, and it would seem that, whatever else this ghastly winter and early spring may have done, salmon fishing on the whole does not appear to have suffered in any way. Some very fine and heavy fish have been taken on the Avon, while the famous Dorset Frome, which has experienced a very bad patch for the last six or seven years, is having what may prove to be a record season.





## A TIMBER MASTERPIECE RESTORED

BROUGHTON HALL, STAFFORDSHIRE, DEDICATED TO YOUTH

**M**ANY years ago it was said of Broughton Hall in these pages, "it only needs the removal of a later roughcasting to reveal the elaborate panelling of its oaken structure." It remained for the late Mr. John Hall, by putting this aspiration into effect, to add a magnificent specimen of seventeenth-century timber architecture to the group comprising Speke, Rufford and Little Moreton Halls. These masterpieces of carpentry, mostly at least a hundred years older than Broughton, lie in and around Cheshire—Little Moreton is but a few miles away. Many old buildings in Staffordshire, near the ancient forests of Needwood and Cannock Chase, were originally, no doubt, of timber construction, but none has survived so elaborate in design as Broughton in the extreme west of the county, where the fertile alluvial soil with abundant timber produces conditions identical with those of the Cheshire plain.

The story of Broughton's restoration is one of an ideal achieved

in the face of great difficulties and of personal tragedy, and it is appropriate to illustrate the completed result at this time, since the project conceived on the eve of the last war was finally achieved, if in an unanticipated way, only after the outbreak of this.

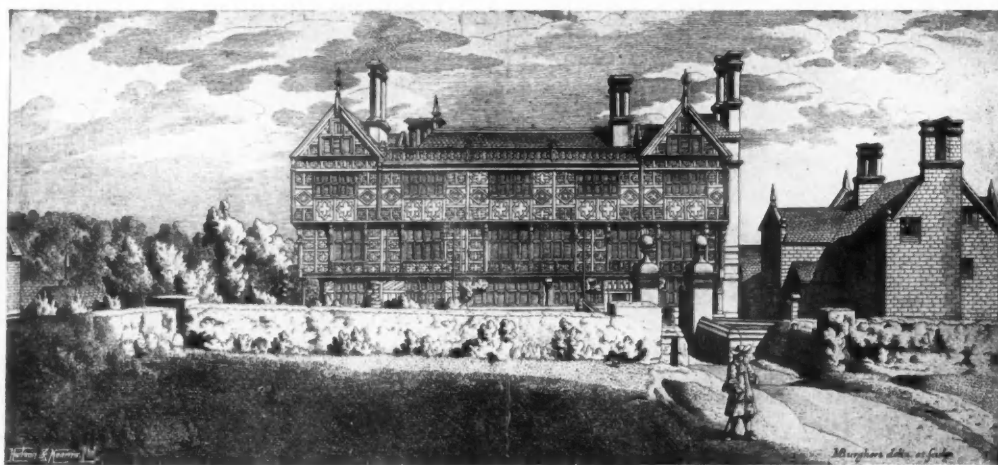
In 1914 Mr. Hall acquired Broughton with the intention of restoring it to the condition shown in an engraving in Dr. Plot's "Natural History of Staffordshire," published in Charles II's reign. The war delayed the start of the undertaking till 1926, and it was not nearly finished when Mr. Hall died suddenly in 1930. Mrs. Hall then decided to carry out her husband's cherished plan on her own account for their eldest son John. Work went slowly forward till, in 1934, the young heir of Broughton was fatally injured when he accidentally fell from a London building. Two years later the Dean of Christ Church unveiled a window to his memory in the great hall of Broughton. The work in the house and gardens had been scarcely completed when, in the autumn of last year, Mrs. Hall decided to



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THE TIMBERED FRONT BEFORE REMOVAL OF THE ROUGHCAST

"Country Life"



BROUGHTON IN CHARLES II'S TIME

From the engraving by Michael Burghers in Plot's "Natural History of Staffordshire"

lease Broughton to one of the oldest established boys' preparatory schools, The Grange, Stevenage, founded in 1847, which the Head Master, Mr. G. K. Thompson, M.C., wished to remove to a completely rural neighbourhood. The venerable mansion, now at length rejuvenated, is thus appropriately dedicated to the service of youth in general, if not to those particular boys for whom its restoration was originally intended.

Below the window over the hall door occurs the date 1637, and on the great post to the right of the door the initials T. B. stand for Thomas Broughton. Three years after that date he became involved in the quarrel of King and Parliament in the cause of the former, and, his estate sequestered, he died before the war ended. It is likely that the house was unfinished, for the balustraded staircase has the flower vases and flat handrail characteristic of the Restoration, when the builder's son, Sir Bryan Broughton, evidently completed the building.

The Civil War, in many ways, is the great historical divide between mediæval and modern England. But it is rare in architecture to find the mediæval building tradition flourishing so late as 1637, under the very shadow of the barrier. Many mediæval features had been discarded by the builders of Broughton, and a few introduced, such as the flat balustraded roof between the gables of the front. But Dr. Plot's engraving shows that a moat surrounded the site, and, before the recent restoration, the hall lay to the left of the entry in the traditional mediæval position. As to the timber-work, its decoration shows but the crudest suggestions of Renaissance influence, and the patterns formed by the oak framework are in many cases identical with those on the gate-house building at Little Moreton, the latest parts of which date from 1580 and the older from fifty years earlier.

Early in the eighteenth century the grandson of the builder married the Delves heiress of near-by Doddington, which thenceforward became the Delves-Broughton home and was re-built towards

the end of the century by James Wyatt. At about the same time Broughton, though no longer lived in by the family, was considerably altered, the north side being reconstructed in inferior brick. The moat and outbuildings shown by Plot were done away with, the timbered front rough-cast, and the approach degenerated to a mean access between iron hurdles. Thirty years ago the house had become a kind of hotel.

For the restoration Mr. Hall had as his architects Messrs. William and Segar Owen of Warrington, with Bond Brothers of High Wycombe as contractors for the interior construction. Very much more was involved than the uncovering of the old structure. The north and east sides have been

entirely re-built in stone, in a style more in keeping with the house, and, since much of the original plan had already been lost, no attempt was made to reconstruct it. But several rooms survived from the seventeenth century: the great parlour with bolelection-moulded wainscot of oak felled on the estate by Sir Bryan Broughton; and, in the top storey, a long gallery of which the open roof has been unencumbered of the attics inserted at some later date. It was also found necessary to reconstruct the stone chimney shafts, but it is not clear why the original pattern of columnar shafts was departed from in favour of a spiral effect which comes perilously near to falsifying so much that is in fact genuine. There has also been added an entirely new wing to contain the office accommodation, west of the old house. Here the style of the original has been followed, with adaptations. It is a measure of its success that, from a little distance, old and new are indistinguishable, though this is a questionable virtue when the old, as in this case, is of so remarkable and elaborate a character that the eye would prefer a foil rather than a repetition.

From the old church beside the road, which runs parallel to the front and at a slightly higher level, a splendid view is obtained of this newly recovered masterpiece. Its foreground is now a plantation of flowering trees and shrubs which will, in time, form a partial screen to the gravelled forecourt. An alternative treatment, more in keeping with the façade and which would have related the building to its surroundings, might have been a lawn enclosed by clipped yew hedges and topiary, or some formal lay-out to prepare the eye for the extreme artificiality of the Jacobean carpentry. Similarly within, the large amount of remodelling and reconstruction in the style of the original but departing from the original disposition, arouses the critical faculties without entirely satisfying them. These criticisms, however, are insignificant beside the debt owed by posterity to Mr. and Mrs. Hall for their rescue—indeed their revelation—of one of the most notable examples of timber architecture.



W. Dennis Moss

THE ENTRY, WITH THOMAS BROUGHTON'S INITIALS AND THE DATE 1637



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THE CORNER POST OF THE SOUTH-WEST ANGLE  
An instance of faithful restoration

## THE FARMER'S WAR

### V.—THE HOLKHAM ESTATE, NORFOLK

By J. GUNSTON

*As a variation from our survey of the War Agricultural Campaign by counties, here is an account of a single estate. The Holkham Estate has been famous for 200 years. Lord Leicester's farm manager here discusses past methods of producing bumper crops inexpensively, and compares the yields with those of to-day, and in particular refers to the production of good crops without the aid of artificial fertilisers.*

#### THE MAIN AVENUE THROUGH THE PARK FARMS



NORFOLK aims at ploughing a minimum of 25,000 acres as its first year's contribution to the nation's plough-up policy. Two-thirds of it has been dealt with, and there is no doubt that the figure will be exceeded. There remains ample time to complete ploughing and sowing. I have sown Spratt Archer barley in late May with good results. Root and other fodder crops will normally succeed from May and June sowings.

The Norfolk acreage deals only with grassland eligible for subsidy. Hundreds of acres of land not ranking for payment will also be ploughed. Of the extra acreage being tilled on the Holkham farm only a seventh qualifies for the £2 per acre. Altogether 140 extra acres are being broken up for 1940 cropping, and another 34 acres are being sown to oats and vetches for folding to sheep. This treatment will provide the right conditions for a 1941 cereal crop.

Artificial manures may become very scarce and dear later on, and farm planning should allow for producing farmyard manure and folding crops. Fodder crops produce meat and prepare soil for good corn crops. Farmyard manure must, in my opinion, be the basis of good farming, in spite of the

success of certain men in doing without it by substituting artificials and green manuring. Soil colour and texture are the result of humus content, and both are essential to good crops throughout the generations.

The success or otherwise of most farms comes from treatment of the soil afforded by farmers dead or gone. Good farmers produce good farms, and a good farm will put up with bad treatment for perhaps two generations before running out.

Colonial and U.S. experience of intensive soil exhaustion and the formation of dust bowls should warn some of our farmers and landowners, and also the Government, that rich land can be killed almost as easily as rich men.

Comparing the results of manuring crops about ninety years ago with those of to-day is very illuminating. With all our new knowledge of fertilisers, machinery and new strains of seeds, we can show hardly any gain in crop yields or quality.

In experiments carried out on this farm at Holkham, Norfolk, by J. B. Lawes in 1851, wheat gave from forty to fifty-four bushels per acre. How many modern mechanised farms can show a like result? The forty bushels was without manure, and the fifty-four with rape cake at the time of sowing.



A TYPICAL LANDSCAPE ON THE PARK FARMS. PLOUGHING GRASSLAND





THE DEEP DIGGING PLOUGH IN ACTION



A DEEP DIGGER FURROW, 14 INCHES DEEP



THE DEEP DIGGER PLOUGH



A DOUBLE DISC CULTIVATOR FOLLOWED BY HARROWS, PREPARING THE SEED BED FOR DRILLING

This gave a higher yield than two hundred pounds of sulphate of ammonia sown either in autumn or spring.

Rape cake continually gave excellent increases in yields in each year for several years. This material is still available, and should be widely used for all crops which are heavy feeders. Merchants and even farm hands say that it kills wireworms. I doubt this; the belief perhaps arose because wireworms prefer to feed on the rape cake, which, being rich in food value, speeds up their maturity into beetles; the wireworms thus disappear quite quickly.

In 1814 the yield of swedes here was twenty tons to the acre. There are many hundreds of acres under this crop to-day which do not yield so well. Weight per acre was not only influenced by manuring, but by the spacing of rows and plants in a row. Twenty-seven-inch drills Northumberland method (ridging) gave twenty-three tons in one case, whereas eighteen-inch drills flat work gave nineteen and a quarter tons. Broadcasting seed gave seventeen-nineteen tons. Eighteen-inch drills gave thirteen tons. These variations mean that the lower plant population gave heavier individual weights.

In 1810 the price of wheat locally was 41s. per coomb of eighteen stone four pounds, and the yield thirteen coombs per acre. Compare this with current figures.

Yield in 1813 was fourteen coombs per acre—fifty-six bushels. Yet the average yield for Great Britain between 1928-37 was about thirty-two bushels.

In 1813 two hundred and twenty acres of cocksfoot

grazing in this part of Norfolk fed one thousand four hundred sheep plus six hundred lambs from March 26th to June 22nd. We can't do any better to-day.

In 1850 guano cost six shillings a bushel, superphosphate five shillings a bushel, and nitrate of soda sixteen shillings a hundredweight. In experiments on wheat during 1854 particulars not only of grain yield were recorded, but of bushel weights of grain for different manuring. Of three types of manure, farmyard manure gave the highest bushel weight at eighteen stone four pounds per four bushels. It also gave the highest percentage of head corn, and the third highest yield. It yielded thirty bushels per acre, whereas a dose of one thousand three hundred pounds of mineral manures only gave thirty-six bushels.

A new source of manure of organic type is that of town refuse. Experiments have shown that this material, pulverised to aid decay, gave excellent results, and, in some cases, returns better than farmyard manure. The amount



THE TILTH PRODUCED BY DEEP PLOUGHING AND HARD FROST



A CROP OF WHEAT ON A DEEP DUG FIELD



A FINE ROOT CROP PRODUCED BY DEEP DIGGING  
Lime and farmyard manure were used, but no artificials

used should be from six to ten tons per acre. Though the cost is low, freightage costs tend to be high.

In 1855 an experiment on the manuring of mangolds was carried out on this farm, comparing farmyard manure with made-up manures from four different firms, and also with rape cake and raw sugar. Sugar gave the highest yield—eighteen and twelve-twentieths tons against eighteen and three-twentieths tons for farmyard manure.

The cost of manure was 42s. per acre in each case except farmyard manure, stated as twelve loads per acre. Sugar was given at thirteen stones per acre, and other manures at six hundredweights.

In experiments carried out at Rothamsted in 1938 on Barnfield, which has been under mangolds since 1876 and has had its plots variously manured, farmyard manure gave 16.31 tons with a dressing of fourteen tons per acre. The plot receiving five hundredweights of nitrate of soda gave the best yield at twenty-six and a half tons. Rape cake at two thousand pounds per acre gave twenty-three and a half tons. All these plots should be in good heart owing to yearly manuring, and taking this into consideration, yields have not increased since 1855, allowing for improved strains of mangolds now used.

Deep digging gives increased yields on suitable soils, where too much sand and clay is not upturned. On such soils subsoiling alone will give good results in the absence of manure.

I deep-dug a field in 1939 which has only had one lot of farmyard manure for twelve years, and it has produced a heavy crop of swedes and savoy. In 1938 deep-digging alone gave me my best crop of oats. Lime, where needed, will give extraordinary crop increases without extra manuring, as it will make available any residues of previous manuring, and correct soil acidity. Draining, where necessary, will turn profitless fields into wage-earners. Early ploughing to expose the furrows to frost is almost as good as a fertiliser.

Other aids to good crops without manure are good seed beds, early sowing in favourable weather conditions, seed dressing with fungicide, using good, plump, sound seed, and later cultivations efficiently done.

The ravages of ground and winged pests can be largely prevented by proper care. Getting the corn harvested in the best possible condition and putting thatch on within forty-eight hours all mean extra profit. Extra bushels to the acre, nowadays, not only help to pay the farmer, but to win the war.



# YOUNG MASTERS

AT THE

## NATIONAL GALLERY

BRITISH PAINTING SINCE WHISTLER



(Above) WALTER GREAVES. CHELSEA IN SNOW

(Left) J. S. SARGENT. FISHING

THIS war-time use of the National Gallery's sacred halls for the display of "British Painting Since Whistler" produces an extraordinary effect at first. Something of the aura of the world-famous masterpieces that they supplant seems to be shed on these pictures of our own day, so that one is inclined to exclaim: "I never thought he had it in him," as of an intimate friend translated before one's eyes to the Heavenly Courts. On reflection, this effect proves to be partly due to the admirable hanging in spacious galleries of pictures that are seldom accorded such treatment. We consequently can approach them in something of the mood that we do established masters, and may well find ourselves appreciating some of them in much the same spirit.

For the exhibition amply justifies itself in affording us a panorama of British painting during the last fifty years somehow more lively and in some respects more representative than the national collection at Millbank. From it is gained a vivid perception of the individuality and essential sanity of English painting during these years—qualities that can be seen to derive ultimately from a love of the English scene under English light, whatever may be the repercussions of foreign influences from time to time.

Some objection has been raised to the inclusion of Whistler in the exhibition. It is true that he was an American by birth (so was Sargent, who is also included) and that he studied and worked partly in France, but it is impossible to consider the older generation of English painters without Whistler as a background, so strong was his influence on their early work. Besides, his appearance did mark a very decided change of direction in painting, a change from the literary, narrative, highly coloured and detailed art of the Pre-Raphaelite following to something inspired by the French impressionists, who aimed at rendering in paint the pleasures of visual sensations. It is to the credit of the English painters that they did not remain mere imitators of Whistler,

for his work is already a watered-down version of what was going on in France at the time. Even Greaves, his closest follower, is stronger than Whistler, and most of the other painters who at one time or another tried to walk in his footsteps—Conder, Sickert, Steer, Pryde, Lavery, and a host of others—developed their individuality in various ways, and often through contact with earlier English and later French paintings. Perhaps the reason why Whistler had so much success here is that his rather slight



CHARLES CONDER. SWANAGE





AUGUSTUS JOHN. DECORATION: LYRIC FANTASY (UNFINISHED), Painted circa 1911. Size 185 x 93½ ins.

manner appealed to the English taste more than to the French. His full-length portrait of a lady in black against a black background is subdued and low in tone, but one cannot deny the beauty of the arrangement, the exquisite touch with which the soft white fur is rendered, and the distinction of the pose. Sargent's much stronger portrait of Mrs. Robert Harrison looks almost arrogant and garish by comparison, but his very early portrait of a child is much nearer to Whistler and more beautiful. Steer's melancholy portrait of a girl in a black hat is also low in tone but more colourful. The Chelsea scenes by Greaves are delightful, and the two landscapes by Conder are full of joyous colour.

Opposite the Whistler hangs Orpen's "Hamlet." Every time this picture is exhibited it fills one with surprise at the competence displayed and with disappointment that the artist never did anything to equal this early masterpiece. There are several other Orpens, including a portrait which is as white as the Whistler is black, but it has even less substance.

Sickert was the first to put some "pep" into the new style—in fact, he derives much more from Degas than from Whistler. His vigorous nudes and sordid haunts were a shock after the emasculate themes of the 'eighties and 'nineties, but Sickert had no prejudice in his choice of subjects, and painted the golden interior of St. Mark's with the same interest as a music-hall. The group of artists associated with Sickert in the Camden Town Group and in the early days of the London Group are particularly

well represented. Their work is in danger of being forgotten, since so many of them died young, and it is a pleasure to see pictures by Spencer Gore, Harold Gilman and Robert Bevan.

The more luminous side of English impressionism is represented by Wilson Steer and his associates, Frederick Brown, Henry Tonks, D. S. McColl, and David Muirhead. Steer's picture of children on a pebble beach is painted with rich glowing colours, broken in the manner of the *pointillists*, but his seascape is smooth and restrained like a Whistler, yet how much movement he has suggested in the water! Another artist, who is not often given his due as an English impressionist, is Mark Fisher, whose landscape sparkles like a Pissarro or a Sisley, and balances the lovely "View of Chepstow" by Professor Brown.

Light cast its spell over the founders of the New English Art Club, but it is not everything; Professor Tonks knew how to render it in combination with excellent drawing. The early "Hat Shop" is, unfortunately, badly cracked, but the "Head of a Girl" is one of his masterpieces, and there is all his exquisite charm in the little "Nude."

Augustus John was no doubt the inspiring force in the little group of painters who produced a series of romantic, colourful subjects of women beside lakes and mountains. It was the time when they were all spending holidays in Wales with the Gipsies. The great decoration by John, and some small pictures by him, Derwent Lees and J. D. Innes all belong to this period. His sister,

Gwen John, is represented by some of her delicate, sensitive studies, and among John's later works there is his splendid portrait of Lady Ottoline Morrell, the portrait of the Marchesa Casati, and a recent self-portrait. Henry Lamb alone, with his portrait of Lytton Strachey and studies of children, can hold his own beside these.

Stanley Spencer's artistic career can be followed from some of his earliest works, though none of his recent satirical subjects is included. His interest in figure composition is seen in the "Apple Gatherers," which can be compared with a preliminary drawing for it; the arrangement is almost as formal as the twisted shapes one finds on a Romanesque capital. Another early work is "The Bed Picture," and its exhibition at the present time is ominous, as it was inspired by the artist's experiences during air raids in the last war, and he painted it just before leaving for Macedonia. Shapes assume strange significance in his work: in the drawing of "Christ Feeding the Multitude" the bundles of baskets are like balloons, and in "The Last Supper" all the earthly expression of the figures seems to be in the feet; the bare simplicity of the room and the simple robes of the Disciples create a motionless but moving spiritual atmosphere. Compared with these profoundly imaginative works, Spencer's recent landscapes seem a little over-elaborate.

The exhibition includes no entirely abstract painting. There is a portrait of Edith Sitwell by Wyndham Lewis, some drawings by Roberts, pictures by Graham Sutherland, Christopher Wood, Ivon Hitchens, Wadsworth; a free architectural composition as well as earlier works by Paul Nash; but the most entertaining work of all is Mark Gertler's "Creation of Eve"—a very sprightly Eve dangling by her long golden hair from the hand of the Creator. The only artist who is not perhaps represented as well as he might be is Duncan Grant.



STANLEY SPENCER. "THE BED PICTURE," Painted 1915

# A COUNTRY HOUSE IN RUMANIA THE PALACE OF MOGOSEA

THE HOME OF PRINCESS MARTHE BIBESCO

By DEREK PATMORE . Photographs by PRINCE GHYKA-COMANESTI

*Built by Venetian craftsmen in 1700-2 for Constantin Bassarab Brancovan, Reigning Prince of Wallachia, the ancestor of the present owner who completed its restoration in 1927*

THE palace of Mogosea was the spring and autumn residence of the Prince of Wallachia, Constantin Bassarab Brancovan, who reigned from 1688 to 1714. Set on the banks of a lake formed by the small River Colentina, it is essentially a *maison de plaisance*, in the close neighbourhood of Bucarest, which was then the winter capital of the reigning prince. Tergoviste, in the Carpathians near Transylvania, was his summer residence after the first capital, Curtea de Arges, was abandoned. Its builders were Venetian artisans who came through Dalmatia to work for Prince Constantin, Venice being the metropolis of civilisation in South-eastern Europe, in succession to Constantinople since the fall of the Byzantine Empire.

The palace was begun in 1700 and inaugurated on September 20th, 1702. So much is told us by the foundation-stone placed by custom and still existing over the main entrance to the palace, surmounted by the heraldic eagle of Wallachia bearing the cross in its beak and holding a sceptre and sword.

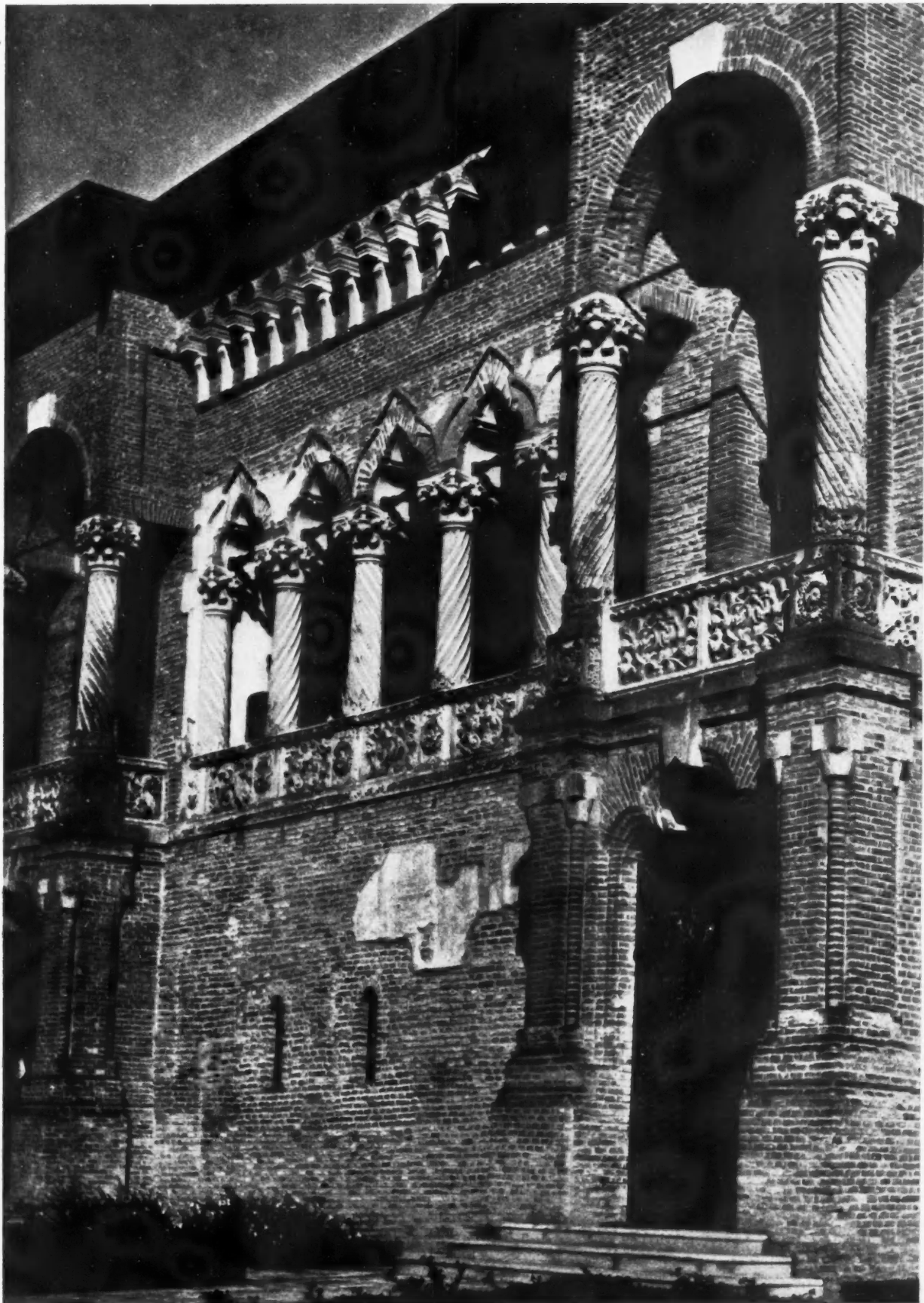
In the courtyard is the church, dedicated to St. George, which was built a few years before the coming to the throne of the Prince. A lovely fresco over the door of the church represents St. George killing the dragon. The fact that the church was built first and the palace after tells us something of the character of the Prince and of the *époque*, the house of God coming first and then the house of mirth.

The graves of the craftsmen who worked at Mogosea are to be found in the enclosure of the monastery of Brancoveni on the Olt, the ancestral home of the Brancovan family. They relate that, long after they had finished their work at Mogosea, these unfortunate men died during an epidemic of plague.

As Prince Bassarab Brancovan had deposited vast sums of money at the Zecca, the State bank of Venice, it is no wonder that Mogosea should be largely Venetian in origin. Yet, besides the graceful Venetian loggia overlooking the lake, there is strong evidence of local tradition deriving from Roman and



STANDING ON A TERRACE ABOVE A LAKE. OLD RED BRICK AND CREAMY STONE



THE PORCHES AND LOGGIA ON THE LAKE FRONT, BUILT IN 1700

This magnificent example of old Rumanian architecture, though it obviously owes much to the Venetian workmen who imitated their already venerable Ducal Palace, suggests also a tradition of massive brickwork deriving from ancient Byzantium





IRISES BY THE LAKE, SEEN FROM THE TERRACE



THE STAIRS TO THE TERRACE FROM THE INNER COURTYARD

Byzantine origins. The brick walls of Mogosea, immensely thick, are more reminiscent of the fortifications of Byzantium than of the Venetian palaces, even of the Early Renaissance style which was perpetuated here instead of the Palladian architecture then prevalent in Venice. Beautiful trees, vast meadows and distant woods make a lovely setting. The main building, with its rectangular courtyard, is set off by terraces now treated in the formal style of Italian gardens. The terraces are guarded by two Byzantine stone lions in the archaic style, coming from the Prince's palace in Bucarest.

The importance of Mogosea in the history of its time is shown by the fact that the main street of Bucarest, now called the *Calea Victoriei*, bore the name of *Podul Mogosoaiei*, "the bridge-way leading to Mogosea," as late as 1877, when its present name was given to it, after the victory of the Rumanian army led by King Carol I at Plevna. The name of *Podul Mogosoaiei* comes from the fact that the Prince, in order to go from his palace in Bucarest to his favourite residence, had this street opened across the town. The road was composed of logs of timber, technically known as "corduroy," a primitive method of construction which at the time was a great novelty in Wallachia and suggested by its appearance a kind of bridge.

It is evident from contemporary history and from the diary (now published) kept by the Prince himself, that Mogosea was intended for week-ends during the spring and autumn, when the weather is particularly pleasant in this part of the country. The Prince writes that he is going to Mogosea for St. George's Day, arriving on a Saturday and remaining till Monday, April 22nd, 1699. He goes to Mogosea to receive his guest of honour, Lord Paget, British Ambassador in Constantinople, on his way to Vienna. The Prince receives at Mogosea the homage of the Transylvanian delegation of noblemen coming to congratulate him on his accession to the Throne (1688). This delegation is headed by Count Csaky, evidently an ancestor of the present Count Csaky, Minister for Foreign Affairs in Hungary.

Some idea is given of the pomp and luxury that prevailed at Mogosea during the reign of its builder by the recently published list of the wedding gifts made by this opulent Prince of Wallachia to his seven daughters, and to his eldest son. The jewellery, silver and furniture described suggests what Mogosea must have looked like in the time when such a prosperous father could lavish so many presents on the numerous children he had by his single wife, Princess Marika. There is another description of Mogosea to be found in the book of a French traveller, Count de Lamottraye, "*Voyage en Orient*," describing the palace as he saw it in 1724, ten years only after the tragic death of its owner. Lamottraye speaks of the magnificent ceilings and the rich paintings, adding the melancholy sentence: "But the furniture had been plundered and carried away by the officers of the Porte, after the fall of the unfortunate master of this palace." The popular tradition in the country is that, after the Prince had been carried away captive, three hundred carts left Mogosea, full of furniture and precious things which the Turks took

for themselves beyond the Danube. This catastrophe was due to an intrigue with the Turks by the Prince's nephew, who aspired to succeed him. He was successful, and Prince Bassarab Brancovan was beheaded with his four sons in the presence of the Sultan Achmet III, at Constantinople, on August 15th, 1714. His supplanter and nephew was Etienne Cantacuzène, whose treachery was the chief reason for Brancovan's fall and the massacre of his whole family. After reigning a year he was deposed by a Brancovan partisan, Prince Nicolas Mavrocordato. This prince, of Greek origin, secretly brought back with him the exiled widow of Prince Bassarab Brancovan, the once famous Princess Marika. Since her husband's death she had been in exile on the Crimean coast, but now she gradually recovered the various estates of the Brancovan family, which she set herself to restore to her grandson Constantin, the only male survivor of the unfortunate family. He had been saved from slaughter in Constantinople by his nurse, who had sacrificed her own child for the sake of the grandson of her master.

Prince Nicolas Mavrocordato several times resided at Mogosea, and there is a letter in existence from the widowed Princess Brancovan to the Patriarch of Constantinople, thanking His Serene Highness for protecting her house of Mogosea by his presence.

Since the return of Princess Marika and her grandson from exile, Mogosea has never been out of the possession of the descendants of the Prince who built it. However, it was seldom lived in, and gradually fell into ruin, the process being accelerated after the revolution of 1821, when the heir of the Brancovans, Emmanuel, Prince of the Holy Roman Empire, left with his family to seek refuge in Transylvania, where he died and was buried, he and his only son.

The last of the Brancovans in the male line, in recognition of all that his family owed to their kinsmen the Mavrocordatos, then adopted his beautiful niece, Zoé Mavrocordato, and con-



**GORGEOUS EMBROIDERIES IN THE MUSIC ROOM**  
Reproducing the Brancovan frescoes in the monastery of Hurez

stituted her sole heiress of all his properties in Wallachia, which, including Mogosea, consisted of over fifty estates. He left her the name and title of Princess Bassarab Brancovan and Princess of the Holy Roman Empire, for her to bestow on her eldest son. She married Georges Demetrius Bibesco, who became reigning Prince of Wallachia, in February, 1842. Thus Mogosea came into the ownership of the Brancovan Bibesco family of the day.



**PONDEROUS ARCHES AND A FLOOR WITH GOLD MOSAIC INLAY IN THE DRAWING-ROOM**  
The furniture is covered with apricot and gold brocade



**SILVER AND MIRROR MOSAIC DOORS REFLECTED IN AN INLAID FLOOR OF COLOURED MARBLES**



(Left) FRENCH EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FURNITURE IN THE DINING-ROOM, WITH A PORTRAIT OF PRINCESS CARAMAN-CHIMAY, BY WINTERHALTER. (Right) A CRIMSON AND GOLD BROCADE BEDROOM

The first restoration of the palace, which had been only partly inhabited since 1714, was undertaken by Prince Nicolas Bibesco, the uncle of the present owners. He and his wife lived in the buildings round the main courtyard. He had married Hélène Ney d'Elchingen, the daughter of the French Duke Ney d'Elchingen, Prince of Moscow, descendant of Marshal Ney, Napoleon's "Brave des Braves."

Prince Nicolas Bibesco replanted and laid out the park with the help of a French gardener, Montigny, who came from Versailles and had the great French tradition. The straight elm avenue leading from the gate of the park to the palace, one kilometre long, dates from this time. A plan was made by an Italian architect for the restoration of the palace in 1877. It was never completed, however, owing to lack of money. Prince Nicolas Bibesco, who, like his brother Georges, had served with distinction in the French Army, returned to Rumania fired with the ardour of a reformer. He set out to improve his fortunes and at the same time bring wealth to the peasants of the estate by building a refinery and introducing the culture of sugar beet into his country. In spite of his energy and enterprise, he was defeated by the venal politicians then in power in Bucharest. He died almost penniless, and the ruin of Mogosea seemed once more inevitable.

But the spirit of the old house fought his battle victoriously against heavy odds. The old Princess Zoé de Brancovan, once reigning Princess of Wallachia, though for forty years an invalid living in seclusion, outlived her son, and through her Mogosea came as inheritance to a younger generation. A family arrangement interposed till as late as 1913, but then the present Prince and Princess Bibesco, nephew and niece of the late Prince Nicolas Bibesco, became owners of Mogosea.

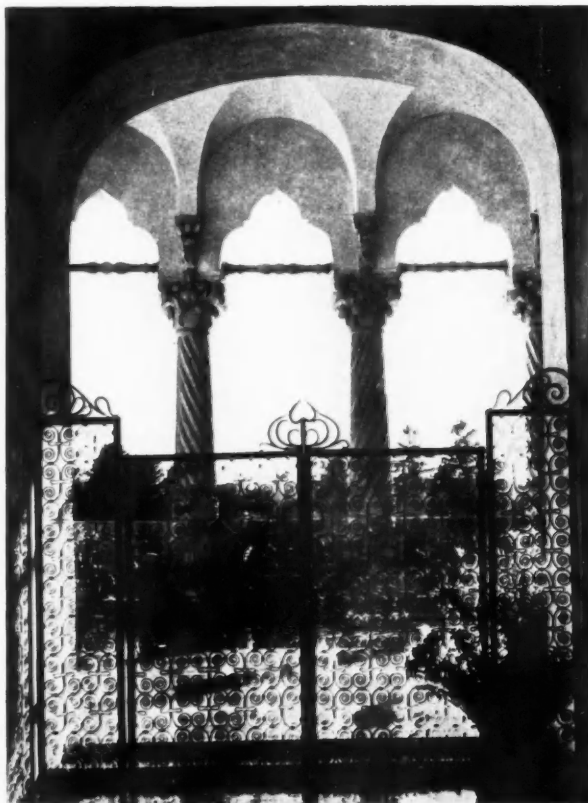
Princess Bibesco, born Marthe Lahovary, whose mother was a Princess Mavrocordat of the same family as the adopted Princess Zoé de Brancovan, took to her heart the difficult task of bringing Mogosea back to life. Although very young and inexperienced

at the time, she came of a family with a remarkable background of artistic culture, and set to work at once. She had the help of a great authority on architecture, Professor Domenico Rupolo of Venice, who had worked for years at the restoration of the Palazzo Ducale, the basilica of Torcello, and many other palaces, among them the Palazzo Montecuculi, owned by Princess Edmond de Polignac, in whose house Princess Bibesco had first met the Professor.

Signor Rupolo had as his assistant a young Rumanian architect of great talent, Georges Cantacuzene, a nephew of Prince Bibesco. The work took seventeen years, and the owners, who during all this time had lived in the adjoining buildings round the courtyard, took possession of the restored palace in 1927, thus bringing back the house to all its former glory.

The interior has been decorated by Princess Marthe herself, and it forms a striking testimony to her informed yet original taste. Most of the rooms are vaulted in brick, roughly rendered

with plaster, which also lines the walls. Original enriched stucco, recalling English Jacobean work, survives in the loggia, which, with its richly carved columns and ogival arches, is reminiscent of Renaissance Venice. Elsewhere the tiled or mosaic floors, splashed with the rich colour of old locally woven rugs, gleam beneath immensely massive arches. The lovely vaulted music room is hung with gorgeous embroideries executed by Nore Steriadis and reproducing the famous fresco of the Brancovan family at the monastery of Hurez. Several of the rooms contain fine examples of French Empire furniture which Prince Bibesco has inherited from his Caraman-Chimay ancestors. His mother was a Princess Caraman-Chimay, and there is a striking portrait of one of these ladies painted by Winterhalter hanging in the dining-room. Mogosea, beside its iris-bordered lake, is undoubtedly one of the most magnificent estates in Rumania. And even when compared with other famous houses in Europe, this former pleasure palace of the Brancovans can hold its own.



ACROSS THE LOGGIA



# BOOKS AND AUTHORS

A GREAT LITTLE MAN, BY ARTHUR OSWALD

**L**AUD'S biographers, if they have not written to vilify him, have usually tried to canonise him, so that behind the inquisitor and the martyr the true lineaments of the man himself have remained in the shadow or obscured by too much light. An objective account of his life and character, uninfluenced by ecclesiastical prejudices, has been badly needed, and this Mr. H. R. Trevor-Roper, in a long and detailed study—*ARCHBISHOP LAUD* (Macmillan, 21s.)—has now made available.

In the tragic drama played out in Charles I's reign Laud, through his own choice, came to take a leading rôle. He might have remained in the background like his predecessor, Abbott, or played for safety in the struggle like his great rival and enemy, Williams. It was not fate that drove him into prominence so much as his own dynamic energy which still shines out of those penetrating eyes in Van Dyck's portrait. His energy has been mistaken for genius; but Laud was no genius, as Mr. Trevor-Roper has no difficulty in showing; indeed, it was his painful lack of political insight and knowledge of human character that proved his undoing. His cardinal mistake was to ride rough-shod over the Englishman's inborn love of freedom in the execution of a policy which was a hundred years out of date. To Laud—and to Wentworth—"Thorough" seemed a feasible policy, and it might have been, given the firm backing of the Crown and Government, and a more conciliatory manner in putting it into effect. So far as the ecclesiastical side of it was concerned, it was a remarkably comprehensive policy, in which such questions as the wearing of the surplice or genuflecting to the altar, which aroused so much opposition, were only details, though to a man of Laud's fussy and meticulous nature important details to be rigorously enforced. But his real purpose was grand and far-reaching: it was to put an end to the divisions disrupting the nation, to restore to the Church its old power, influence and property, to impose order, to stabilise and to conserve. If Mr. Trevor-Roper minimises the importance to that age of doctrinal beliefs and is too ready to find an economic explanation for every historical development, he has made admirably plain the aims for which Laud tirelessly and relentlessly worked. If they were reactionary in one sense, they were progressive in another, for Laud aspired to improve the lot of two of the most indigent classes in the State—the poor peasant and the poor parson.

Why did Laud fail? Apart from the wider question of why the policy of "Thorough" failed, there were, as Mr. Trevor-Roper emphasises, insuperable obstacles to Laud's success in his own life and character. He rose to power too late in life; he had neither the personality nor the intellectual stature to launch a movement and win the enthusiasm of disciples; years spent in unrelenting labour did not make up for the lack of tact, humour and ordinary human sympathy, which might have stood him in so much better stead. A generous patron of art and scholarship, yet himself neither artist nor scholar, a magnificent prelate, who yet hated ostentation and was bored by ceremonies, a man with a large purpose, who at the same time devoted hours of precious time to trivialities, irascible and humourless, obstinate and superstitious, punctilious about details and often blind to the main issue, such was this great little man. Yet he compels admiration for his sincerity, energy and courage, and, unattractive personality though he was, in the end he wins our sympathy in his loneliness and unflinching readiness to face his trial when he might have fled abroad. Mr. Trevor-Roper only devotes a few brief pages to Laud's imprisonment and death, maintaining that after his fall he ceases to be interesting to the historian. But without investing him with a martyr's crown or repeating at length what has been often described before, he should not have missed the opportunity of giving to his book the completeness demanded by the large scale on which it is planned. This perfunctory dismissal shows an almost puritanical determination on the part of the writer not to be found guilty of betraying the least emotion in saying farewell to the man who through more than four hundred pages has been dissected with the cool detachment of a surgeon using

the knife. Surely even Laud deserves a warmer response from his biographer.

## AN EYE FOR ENGLAND

Mr. Harry Batsford has written just the book that was needed and exactly as it should be written in *HOW TO SEE THE COUNTRY*, (Batsford, 3s. 6d.). It is to be hoped that the book's title—made unavoidable, perhaps, by the fact that it appears in a series—will not, with its suggestion of "little talks for the little people," deter from

buying it any of the thousands of quite sophisticated readers, and readers well at home in the country, to whom it will be a sheer delight. Within the compass of a small pocketable volume—and, after all, that is what such a book should be—the subject can scarcely, I imagine, ever have been better handled. The illustrations, though mostly small, are clear, well chosen and unposed, and one or two which are used at postcard size—"Spring at Chillington," for instance, and "Ox-eye Daisies on Dartmoor"—are beautiful. The author has not aimed at an exhaustive treatment of any side of his huge subject, nor, on the contrary, has he been bloodlessly general in his treatment; he has been general enough to ensure a right perspective and particular enough to whet the reader's appetite for the more of the same sort that he can so easily find for himself. Landscape (which ranges from geology to hedge plants), buildings, country character and occupations, ways of

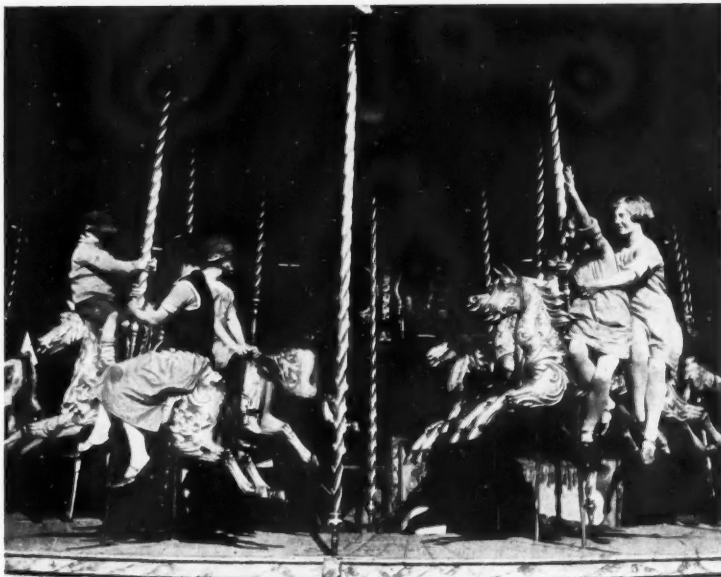
exploring the country and how to stay in it, are some of the ground covered, and in doing that Mr. Batsford among other things is wise about rambling by motor 'bus, tells one or two good ghost stories, and quotes the splendid epitaph of Sir Robert Shirley at Staunton Harold. The origin of the book was to serve the interests of those whom the war has sent to live in the country for the first time, but its usefulness will long outlast their exile and its public be one far beyond their ranks. S.

## THE MIND OF A COUNTRYMAN

Belonging to the country in the full sense of the phrase, seeing things as a countryman sees them, having those values, those loyalties, even those prejudices, is perhaps a kind of gift. There are families high and low in whose members it is to be expected because it has been handed down in them for generations; beyond their limits it is something like a freemasonry; the members know each other at once, but to people who are not members they seem just like everybody else. It is difficult for the country-hearted—and headed—to explain quite what it is they find in each other—it is nothing obvious, for lots of them live in regiments and ships and offices, and many a man who has a pleasant country house as his home is still quite outside the fraternity. That being so, it may be enough to say that Mr. Thomas Washington-Metcalf, who has just written *COUNTRY BLOKE'S CHRONICLE* (Hutchinson, 8s. 6d.), is quite clearly a real countryman, and that it is evident not because of the material of his book but because of the way in which he treats it. He has put his recollections and opinions into the mouth, or rather into the typewriter, of an elderly literary gentleman, one Major Mecker, who writes a rambling discourse on his doings and memories for relations in Virginia. Mecker is a Yorkshireman, but has inherited property in the west, so he has two parts of England to talk about, and he has also been soldier schoolmaster, author, and musician. He is a bachelor, and rubs shoulders happily with all classes. The result is a pleasant, rambling book rather like a long evening's conversation with a delightful talker who has a keen eye for character and for humour, and when such subjects as agricultural wages or the modern farmer are under discussion soon shows that he knows very well what he is talking about. His village and village worthies live and move, their jokes broad as they are, are without viciousness, their intrinsic love of fair play and of the country for which already many have fought is as unaffected, almost unconscious, as it is sincere. That is, perhaps, one of the best things in a good book, its complete sincerity. Major Mecker is long a-writing it: the crisis of 1939 passes over towards the end, and he makes a bet that we are in for peace. On the last page he has lost his bet and it is the autumn of 1940. It is difficult to convey the quality of this very pleasant book; it seems to me to be country from cover to cover and truly "a bit of England," and I have an idea that Major Mecker and perhaps the author—it is difficult to disintegrate them—will be pleased with that. S.

## ROME AND REMEMBRANCE

Of late, Sir Hugh Walpole has learnt to laugh at himself: a pleasant addition to his other gifts. There are many examples of this in *ROMAN FOUNTAIN* (Macmillan, 8s. 6d.), which is not a novel but a fragment of autobiography. Last year the author was commissioned to go to Rome and write articles about the late Pope's funeral and the choice of his successor. But Sir Hugh is not really a journalist with quick reactions; he is a novelist, and therefore has slow ones. So we imagine



L'ALLEGRO: YOUTH ON THE MERRY-GO-ROUND AT A DEVON FAIR

(From "How to see the Country.")

that, afterwards, he found there were many things he would still like to say, and that this book is the result. It is very readable, although the parts about Rome and Roman history are the least interesting things in it. For, to write about subjects so familiar as those, one must have an originality of mind and a rare distinction of style that do not belong to this author. Where he excels here is in the parts that touch on character, any sort of character, from his own and his mother's to a passing stranger's, and in his good-humoured stories against himself. He also sets down sincerely his convictions about the meaning behind the shows of life.

V. H. F.

#### AUSTRIA BEFORE AND AFTER

On an immense canvas the Dutch author, Mr. Johan Fabricius, spreads his ancient CASTLE IN CARINTHIA (Collins, 9s. 6d.), peopling it and its environs first in pre-war and then in post-war Austria. The unquestioned feudalism that continued until 1914 is represented by the Austrian officer who inherits the castle. His is the type of mind, upright but narrow, that takes on an early rigidity; he is capable of suffering deeply from changed conditions, but not of the slightest adaptation to them. He understands neither his first nor his second wife; his children, after their first few years, become strangers to him. One daughter, Elizabeth, reaches out to him by means of exceptional powers of sympathy; but only death can give ease, in times of transition,

to men so lacking in elasticity. Both the pre-war gaiety of Vienna and the post-war despair are vivid here; after the war the young people react by becoming Communists or Fascists, opportunists or rakes. Even Elizabeth, flouting her ancestors, ends by marrying her father's farm factor and letting the family castle to an American. The story, although human and interesting, moves too slowly. It is translated into English, adequately but without distinction, by Mr. G. J. Renier and Mr. David Hallet.

V. H. F.

#### BOOKS EXPECTED

An important book coming almost at once from Messrs. Methuen is MORE ROCK PAINTINGS IN SOUTH AFRICA, which contains thirty-eight coloured and monotype collotype reproductions of drawings copied by J. and M. van der Riet.

Mr. Henry Baerlin's IN OLD RUMANIA (Hutchinson) promises a spirited and sympathetic account of his travels in a country in which we are all, for one reason or another, interested. Very *à propos* our preoccupations is A FEDERATION OF WESTERN EUROPE, by Dr. W. Ivor Jennings, to be published very shortly by the Cambridge University Press. SEA WARFARE TO-DAY (Bodley Head), by Sir Herbert Russell, K.B.E., is also very much of the moment.

MRS. KING, THE GOVERNOR'S LADY was the wife of the first Governor of Norfolk Island; her memoirs of eighteenth century life in New South Wales are to appear next month from the Oxford University Press.

## THE IMP OF THE FORESTS

By H. MORTIMER BATTEN



"IT IS ALWAYS A DELIGHT TO SEE THE BIG WHITE-LINED EARS LOOM UP FROM THE THICKETS"

THOUGH there is no wild beast which presents a fairer impression of furtive woodland life than the roe, as so often one sees them among their chosen setting of silver birch or Scots fir, there is no getting away from the fact that, wild or tame, the buck at any rate is a precocious little imp! The roe are just about the most cunning of our deer, and I would say by a long head the most intelligent, and it is always a delight to see their big, white-lined ears loom up from the thickets, to be followed next second by the sound of the sharp, terrier-like bark, and then a glimpse of their white rumps rapidly vanishing into the thickets; yet those who have young plantings, and have seen the seemingly deliberate damage they do, prefer to see them in the woods of a distant neighbour!

The doe makes a delightful pet, and even when full grown will live a half-tame woodland life about the home of her fawnhood, coming to be fed by those whom she knows; but my ex-



A ROE DEER FAWN OF ABOUT FOUR DAYS OLD  
He is about half the size of a red deer fawn of the same age

perience is that the buck becomes impossible as soon as his budding horns appear. He is mighty proud of these little dagger weapons, and nothing pleases him more than to use them to the discomfiture of someone whom he does not like—and generally he has his rooted dislikes! These, as a rule, include all strangers, and in the case of one pet buck particularly embraced anyone carrying a parcel or a basket. So we had to return him to his own wild people in a far-distant forest where there was little young timber, and this because no tradesman's boy would come to the house on account of him.

Some years ago a little buck who proved too enterprising for his owners was gratefully accepted by the Edinburgh Zoo, where he was placed in a small paddock surrounded by deer fencing. One day I was conversing with an official, who, while we talked, thoughtlessly leant with his back against the wires, and neither of us noticed the buck, so silent and stealthy was his approach. Sud-





**A YOUNG ROE BUCK SHEDDING HIS SUMMER COAT.** His short horns are a deadly stabbing weapon which he is always ready to use

denly my friend uttered a yell and literally leapt into the air. The roe had dealt him a jab in the seat through the wires, being quite unable to resist the temptation of taking him unawares!

An amusing incident occurred with a tame roe of my boyhood's memories. He was much attached to the little girl of the house, who had fed him when he was small, and his gentleness and affection never changed towards her as he grew up. But he never cared much for little boys, and ultimately became dangerous. So one day he was packed in a laundry-basket and taken to a far-off woodland where he was given his liberty. The last we saw of him he was nibbling the flowers at the burn margin, so we sneaked off and left him.

On the way home it came on to rain and his little mistress came on to cry, and on the whole it was the wettest journey imaginable. It took us an hour and a quarter to reach home, and when we got there we found that the little buck had already been waiting for us a matter of twenty-five minutes!

I have many times seen fawns in the woods and at a much



**CROUCHING AS HIS MOTHER LEFT HIM AND ALMOST INVISIBLE TILL STEPPED UPON.** Even then it would take him some seconds to realise what had happened

earlier date than the calves of the red deer appear, but it is rarely that one gets an opportunity of a close-up photograph of them. The one in the illustration here shown cannot have been more than a few hours old, for—as with red deer—when the mother has been back to feed them once or twice, they are up and away before the camera can be brought to bear. When newly born, however, they have no fear, and are difficult to get rid of, as their native instinct is to follow anything they see moving.

On one occasion at the foot of the Cairn Gorm I found a fawn of a few days old. It was easy to approach within, say, twenty feet of him, then he would shake his head and move off a little distance, though otherwise quite unafraid. While I was trying to wangle him out of the thickets so as to obtain some photographic light, he suddenly turned with a stare of terror, then went bounding off as fast as his frail legs could carry him. Next moment I heard a crushing in the undergrowth in the direction in which he had gone, and knew that he had joined his mother. But by what means she conveyed that silent message of warning is still a matter of mystery.

## THE BRUSH-TURKEY

(*CATHETURUS LATHAMI*)

**I**N a beautiful park in Surrey, which is devoted to animals and birds from every corner of the globe, I have been able to observe and study the habits and peculiarities of that most interesting bird, the brush-turkey.

A native of the Australian bush country of Queensland and New South Wales, the brush-turkey has in recent years frequently been imported to our own countryside, where it has on certain occasions been able to adapt itself successfully to totally different

surroundings and set up a new home in a surprisingly short time.

In appearance the brush-turkey is a rather drab-looking bird, about the size of a common fowl, dark brown all over, except in the case of the male bird which has a red and yellow wattle. This is always more pronounced in the breeding season. The claws are long and exceptionally strong, for the powerful feet are used to make up their natural incubators.

The brush-turkey belongs to the family of Megapodes or

(Below) THE NEST OF A BRUSH-TURKEY AT FOX-WARREN PARK, SURREY

(Right) BRUSH-TURKEY ON THE TOP OF THE MOUND





mound-builders, and the great fascination and interest of these birds lies in their curiously constructed nests and peculiar habits during the nesting season.

Early in April I watched a brush-turkey begin work on their new home. For a month the male bird continued to work almost without ceasing. First it would go and collect earth, leaves, twigs and dead grass from the vicinity. Then, using its powerful claws, it began to scratch and kick the material backwards into the form of a heap. As more and more material was collected each day, the small heap grew into an immense mound, until at the end of the month the great incubator was equivalent to many cartloads of vegetable matter. It was afterwards found to weigh four tons.

It will be noticed that during the whole of the nest-building performance the female bird had been entirely inactive. This is most unusual, for the nesting responsibilities are in the vast majority of cases shared by male and female bird alike.

The only duty of the female brush-turkey is to lay the eggs. The preparation of the mound and the care of the eggs when laid and buried are all undertaken by her husband. The brush-turkey is said to lay between twelve and fifteen eggs, but this particular bird excelled itself by producing no fewer than eighteen. They were white in colour, about the size of a goose's egg and enormous in proportion to the size of the parent. The large size of the egg corresponds to the high development of the young when hatched. Another peculiarity I noticed was that all the eggs, which were scattered in different parts of the mound, were laid point downwards with the small end sticking into the earth.

The incubation period lasted for over six weeks. During this time the male bird used to watch over the nest most consistently. Sometimes, on a hot day, when the temperature of the nest was too high, it would scratch the top off the mound and leave it uncovered until evening came. Then it would re-build the part which had lain exposed all day.

After six long weeks of waiting, watching and guarding, the labours of the brush-turkey were repaid. But there was still some work to be done. I have read that young brush-turkeys are supposed to be capable of burrowing their own way out into the open air, completely unaided by their parents. But in this particular case I was lucky enough to see the male bird actually helping its young to make their entry into the world. With the strong claws at work once again, it scratched and burrowed deep into the mound until the chicks were able to creep out into the open. It took several days for all the young birds to make their escape. Now, at last, it was time for father to have a holiday from work and care. The responsibilities of the adult brush-turkey end at the moment when the eggs are hatched. The chicks are actually born fully fledged, and are consequently left from the earliest moment to seek their own food and fight their own battles.

It seems strange that, after such long and devoted weeks of care, the brush-turkey should be content to leave to the mercies of the world and ignore completely the future progress, development and even existence of, the family for whom he has worked so consistently.

ALINE EZRA.

## GOLF BY BERNARD DARWIN

### ONCE MORE O YE GUTTIES

I MUST be late for the fair over the gutty match, but I will have my say nevertheless, because it was interesting and in some ways surprising. In these times of golfing dearth it had been so long and keenly looked forward to that it might have been a little disappointing, but it was not, and on a pleasant spring-like day, with the rain kindly holding off till the last putt was holed, I enjoyed myself exceedingly, and so, I am sure, did everyone at Sandy Lodge. I should have enjoyed the match still more if it had been a foursome. The four-ball is not well adapted to a spectacle. It takes too long; this one took three hours, though all four men played with admirable briskness. It is too confusing; the average spectator has, as a rule, the vaguest notion of how many shots anyone has played, and, further, too many of those shots are of no practical importance. Yet it is this befogged and bemuddled spectator who wants to see it, as I can only suppose on the principle of getting more shots for his money. Enough of these murmurings, however, for the match was very good fun as it was, and exciting fun too. For a long time it seemed as if Braid and Herd, the old men with the new ball, would win comfortably. Then came a sudden change, and towards the finish Cotton and Havers, the young men with the old ball, were pressing very hard. The end was the best possible, all even.

I confess to having been a little surprised at the way in which the gutty kept up in point of length. Admittedly Braid and Herd are getting on in years, and it was very perceptible that with them the club came down more slowly on the ball than with their adversaries. Nevertheless, Braid can still hit it a long way, and most people expected to see him well ahead. When I say "most people" I mean most of those who know something about golf, not those who are catered for by such headlines as "Gallant Veterans Not Outdriven by Young Champions." In fact Braid was, I think, just the longest, in particular against the wind, but he was no more than that, and Herd was very distinctly shorter than the two gutty men. It is my impression and, which is much more important, I believe it is the impression of Braid and Herd, that these *ad hoc* gutties, made specially for the match, were decidedly better and longer flying balls than the ones we used to play with nearly forty years ago. Some years since, when the enthusiasm of Sir Harold Gillies started for a short while the Gutter Club, I played in one or two matches and the ball we then used seemed a kindlier one than had been the old stony-hearted fellow. When it is too late the secret of making a pleasanter and more resilient gutty has been discovered. I do not suppose that Cotton and Havers particularly liked playing with this gutty. It must have seemed to them strange, dead and irresponsive, and, moreover, it must be a shock to have suddenly to take a wooden club instead of a more or less lofted iron. Nevertheless, they made golf appear once more what it used to look, a fine, strenuous, athletic game, and in so doing they must have stirred some regrets in ancient breasts.

Everybody who ever played with a gutty must recall how far easier it was to slice, so that, with a strong cross wind blowing on one's back, the ball did really need very, very true hitting. Yet I felt I had forgotten a good deal when I watched Cotton

and Havers. Especially had I forgotten how likely a forcing sort of iron shot hit against a wind was likely to send the ball drifting into a bunker on the right-hand side of the green. It came back to me at the very first hole, where Cotton had to take his biggest iron to this third shot over the deep cross bunker. He hit the ball apparently well, hard enough to carry the bunker if not by much; but the ball just drifted away that fatal little bit to the right; the bunker had curled round to the right, as if to wait for it, and in it went. That was perhaps the best example of what was always inclined to happen to the gutty ball. With the rubber core the modern good player is much more frightened of trouble on the left. Now with the gutty he was, as of old, engaged in a war on two fronts. Another quality of the gutty which had grown dim in my memory was its great docility in the hands of a fine pitcher. True, Havers flattered it, for he had what is vulgarly known as a day out with the shots near the green; but even so I was not quite prepared for such poached-egg-like pitching. It was at the sixth hole that Havers played the first of his series of really superb pitches, and the way in which the ball came floating lazily through the air and then sat down at once lightly and firmly by the pin gave me a great thrill. It was, as Uriah Heep might have observed, "like the blowing of old breezes or the ringing of old bellses." So far as the ringing of the old balls on the club I was a little disappointed. I suppose I had sentimentally exaggerated and so expected too much. It did make rather a fiercer crack with the full shot, but not to any noteworthy extent, and the iron shots did give quite the music I had hoped for. Nor, for that matter, did the putts. Have I invented it, or did a putt struck with perfect cleanness have a clarion note of its own? I think it did, and this time, perhaps because I was not quite near enough to the players, I did not hear it. This modern gutty seemed to be a good ball to putt with, and I notice that Braid is reported as saying that it showed a less reprehensible tendency than did its predecessors to hop out of the hole again.

I have not gone into any very precise details as to length, because these were so difficult to come by amid the hurly burly of watching. It was noteworthy that at two long holes coming home, the eleventh and the fourteenth, measuring respectively 543yds. and 520yds., and both played against the wind, neither of the gutty men could do more than reach the outskirts of the green in three shots. The sixth was another instructive hole. It is 455yds. long, and here the wind was favourable. Braid, hitting two big ones with his rubber core, was over the green and into an out-of-bounds hedge beyond, but the gutty did not get up in two. The best individual gutty shot of the day was perhaps Cotton's tee shot to the fifteenth, a hole of 190yds., against the wind. He laid the ball a few feet from the pin and got his two. Generally speaking, that which is spoken of to-day as a two-shot hole for the good player was something too long for the gutty; but then, it seemed often something too long for the Old Gentlemen with the rubber core. The course, though in capital order, was very slow and had very little run in it. If such a match were played again later in the year one might have to revise one's notions. On April 20 I believe the postponed match is to take place at Mid Surrey, and I trust it will be as originally intended a foursome.

## FARMING NOTES

### INVESTING IN FERTILISERS—GRAZIERS' GRIEVANCES—THE SILAGE REVIVAL—FARMHOUSE BUTTER

ONE of the best investments any farmer can make this month is the purchase of sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda or nitro-chalk to give his cornfields and his grass a top dressing at the rate of one hundredweight per acre. This pays in ordinary times, and it will certainly pay this season, not only in hard cash but in extra output, which for the stock farmer is just as important. An extra rick of hay or another silage clamp will be worth having now that we have sacrificed one or more grassfields for corn growing. Most farmers in a big way of business do spend generously on fertilisers and they reap the reward, but we are a country of small farmers and, despite the advertising and propaganda carried out so capably by firms like Imperial Chemical Industries, I am afraid that a great many fields which would repay the application of fertilisers go short and yield a sack of corn less to the acre than they might. Ploughing up grassland is all very well as the first step in the campaign for increased food production. Even better results in output from the land would be obtained if every farmer could be persuaded, or required, to use an adequate amount of fertilisers. The persuasion might take the form of a grant towards the cost of fertilisers generally, worked on similar lines to the lime and basic slag subsidy. The fact that fertilisers have risen again in price may deter some farmers from using all they should, and a grant bringing back the price to the pre-war level would undoubtedly be an inducement and also a sound investment for the nation which wants not only more arable land but full crops all round.

Sheep farmers are not feeling happy. So far in this war they feel that they have had a raw deal from the Government. The Ministry of Supply commandeered all the wool left unsold and, after many months' delay, fixed a price hardly above the pre-war 1939 level, which was low. It is true that the Australians and New Zealanders were treated alike and accepted a poor price. Anyway, the Government's wool account should show a handsome trading profit. The time is now approaching when the Government will have to declare its hand over 1940 wool prices. The N.F.U. and farmers generally are determined that wool prices shall be fixed at a considerably higher figure. It would be reasonable to take the average of the past five years and add 25 per cent.

Another cause of irritation is the scale of prices fixed for sucking lambs. The price is to be 1s. 5d. a pound until the end of this month, 1s. 4d. until mid-May and 1s. 3d. for the rest of May, then a further reduction. Few lambs except from the early lambing Down flocks are fit for sale before the end of May. The Down flockmasters deserve all the price they can get. They have had a very difficult lambing season, with abominable weather and a shortage of linseed cake combined with frosted and valueless swedes for the ewes. The early lambs have not done well, and 1s. 5d. a pound is by no means a fancy price to pay for them. The ordinary sheep farmer with grass ewes which are now lambing will apparently have to take a lower price for his lambs marketed in June and July than he has done in ordinary years. The Government's idea is that the lambs in grass flocks should be kept on through the summer to grow to heavier weights. The 34lb. lamb in June will, if he does well, weigh 44lb. by August. This assumes that grass keep is plentiful. It may be on some farms, but elsewhere the extra mouths will present a problem in June and July when several fields are closed for hay-making. It will be no economy to overstock the grazing fields, for that is the surest road to sheep-sick land and unthrifty lambs. "One sheep is another sheep's worst enemy" they say, and it is true. The ideal stocking is to maintain a balance between sheep and cattle so that the fields are grazed alternatively and kept sweet for the sheep. Each of us with a big head of sheep will have to find his own solution of the price problem which the Government has set. It will pay best to keep the lambs on until the end of the summer if we have the keep for them.

Sheep farming is an enterprise which should be encouraged in war-time. The sheep lives mainly on the produce of the farm, and very little purchased feeding-stuffs need be used even in fattening lambs. When we have more of our home-grown oats and some home-grown linseed these foods will make a useful lamb-fattening food. It is in the national interest that our breeding

flocks should be maintained, but there is little room for an increase at the same time as the ploughing campaign. Indeed, reports from the northern markets show that many hoggets which would normally have been kept on for breeding are being sold for slaughter. Classed as lambs, they are fetching good prices, and as the demand for young breeding sheep is problematical they are being cashed now. This tendency needs watching. It should be possible to give sheep farmers definite assurances about future wool and lamb prices which would convince them of the wisdom of maintaining their breeding stock at full strength.

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A revival in silage-making is afoot. The campaign is being conducted with almost the fervour of a revivalist meeting. Mr. Wilfrid Mansfield, who runs the Cambridge University farm, is one of the enthusiasts who is busy converting the sceptics. He has been using the Sisalkraft method. Stout paper and wire hold the silage and the results have evidently pleased Mr. Mansfield. A sturdy yeoman in body and mind, he is not one to jump at new devices for the sake of novelty. Others use the small portable wooden silos which can be shifted from one field to another as needed. They, too, claim excellent results and have been mightily pleased to have well made silage as a stand-by for dairy cows and other stock through the winter. The secret of modern success in silage making is the use of molasses. A solution of



#### NO GRIEVANCE HERE, THIRTEEN LAMBS IN FOUR SEASONS

A four year old Clun Forest Ewe, owned by Mr. David Davies of Brynecrdd, Llanwrtyd Wells, with her five lambs. Her record as a four year old is: One year old, twins; two year old, triplets; three year old, triplets; four year old, quins; thirteen in all

molasses is sprinkled on the heap of greenstuff as it is being built up, and this controls the fermentation and ensures a palatable silage. The method is said to be almost fool-proof. Despite sugar rationing the Government has agreed to release any quantity of molasses needed for silage-making, so no one need have qualms on that account.

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Now that the butter ration has been doubled and supplies are evidently more nearly normal, I cannot understand why English farmhouse butter should not be allowed to make its proper price this summer. If there are housewives—and there are—who are ready to pay at the rate of 2s. 6d. a pound for English butter in preference to imported butter at 1s. 7d., let them have their choice. English eggs are allowed to make their price, which is 3d. or 6d. a dozen more than the best imported eggs, and no one suffers from a sense of injustice. Devonshire and Cornish cream makes its price too. Butter-making is an important industry on many outlying farms in the west and north of England and in Wales. The butter is taken to market once a week, and the calves have the benefit of the skim and butter-milk. It is an economical system of farming which suits these districts, where long distances and difficult roads make thoroughly uneconomic the daily collection of milk to a creamery. Surely it is common sense to let these farmers make the best price they can for butter, regardless of the controlled price of imported butter. Nothing is gained by driving them out of business.

CINCINNATUS.



# CORRESPONDENCE

## "VON HERKOMER'S FOLLY"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I have read with great interest your article, "Von Herkomer's Folly," on page 636 of your December 16th, 1939, number. It may interest your readers to know that the famous American architect, H. H. Richardson, was in large measure responsible for the exterior design. Since Mr. Richardson died April 27th, 1886, the house must have been begun at least as early as 1885, for the plan had already been settled upon by Mr. Herkomer before Richardson was called in to design it. The commission was given to Richardson as part of an exchange agreement according to which Herkomer was to have painted Richardson's portrait in return for Richardson's elevation drawings.

The original design is shown in Fig. 139 of Henry Russell Hitchcock jun.'s "The Architecture of H. H. Richardson and His Times" (New York, Museum of Modern Art, 1936). Mr. Hitchcock states that the commission for the house was received in January, 1886. As this elevation shows, it was originally intended to carry up the right-hand square portion of the front into a high tower.

Of this work, Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer, in "Henry Hobson Richardson and His Works" (Boston and New York, Houghton Mifflin, 1888), speaks as follows: "Richardson has been known in England by a house which he designed just before his death for Professor Hubert Herkomer. It is possible, however, that the work does not represent him as well as we should wish. The plan had already been decided upon when he was asked to put the exterior into shape; and he was so apt to modify a design in the process of construction that it is difficult to be sure of the success of one which was not executed under his own eye or that of a trusted assistant."

I do hope that some means may be found of preserving at least some of the rich decorations which Mr. Herkomer lavished upon his house. It is an interesting memorial of the "gilded age."—TALBOT HAMLIN, *Avery Librarian, Columbia University.*

## WAR-TIME ARTISTS: A NEGLECTED SPHERE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—From the appointments of official war artists so far made it appears that one of them, Mr. Henry Rushbury, R.A., is to be chiefly concerned with recording in pictorial form activities in the munition centres at home. He is well qualified for his task by his skill as a draughtsman, and we know from his drawings in the Imperial War Museum how aptly and with what artistic distinction he recorded London scenes during the last war. But ought not some provision to be made, by those who are responsible for giving the war-time artists their terms of reference, for recording the scenes of urgent activity that war has brought to the countryside? Up to the moment no such proposal appears to have been made. Yet the war is helping to change the face of rural England. Its impact has been felt there as sharply as anywhere else. And in the long run, we are assured, home-grown food is likely to prove as potent a factor in our survival as anything that emerges from a munition factory. Sketching the activities of men at furnaces, lathes, and conveyor belts tends to monotony for the artist, one imagines. There is no such narrowing influence in the life of the farm or the agricultural research station, and a tractor in action can be aesthetically more satisfying than the barrel of a big gun, though the more sentimental among us would prefer to see a horse-drawn plough.

What with the

activities of the Women's Land Army, intensive cultivation generally, and the establishment of camps and evacuees in the country, there would appear to be a whole chapter of the war effort that may escape the attention of the official artists. The makers of documentary films have made an effort to record it; but it is clearly due to the future to put the picture of rural Britain at war in the more personal and enduring form of graphic art.—L. B. POWELL.



FROM PERILS OF HIGHWAYMEN

## AN INLAND LIGHTHOUSE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Dunston Pillar, built by Sir Francis Dashwood in 1751, was erected as an inland lighthouse to act as a guide to travellers over an open heath infested by highwaymen. The light shone out through the hole which can be seen at the foot of the figure. The lantern, however, was removed in 1810, the Jubilee of George III, and a statue was erected in its stead in honour of the King. Inside the pillar is a stairway up to the summit, and, as it is 92ft. high, extensive views can be obtained over a typical stretch of the Lincolnshire countryside. It is reputed to be the only "inland lighthouse" ever raised.—D. R.

## CATS AND WATER

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—The very interesting account in your last number of "the cat that swims" has prompted me to send you a photograph of my sandy Persian who loved to sit on a tiny island of bricks and stones in a small lily pool in my garden.



"KING OF THE CASTLE"

He would jump on to it from the side and sit with his tail spread along the surface of the water.

He paid no attention to the goldfish, but appeared to be meditating serious matters. A day or two before he died, in his fourteenth year, he spent some time on his favourite island, although he was almost too weak to make the necessary jump to reach it.—EDITH M. MARYON.

## ELM AND ULMUS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In "Wayside and Woodland Trees," by Mr. Edward Step, it is stated that the common or small-leaved elm (*Ulmus campestris*) was introduced from the Continent by the Romans, and that its name is derived from the Latin *ulmus*. On the Mendips in North Somerset when I was a boy the pronunciation of elm in the local dialect was "ullum," and a certain village named Great Elm was called "Gurt Ullum." It seems to me that the local dialect thus preserved through the centuries a pronunciation which approximated much more nearly to what may have been the original Roman pronunciation than "elm." If I am wrong, perhaps some of your readers who are philologists will correct me.—E. W. HENDY.

## "BRIDLES AND FROST"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—The article "Bridles and Frost" in *COUNTRY LIFE* interested me very much, as I have always considered the description "a snaffle mouth" to be misleading. I was glad to see that "Bridoon" is a supporter of the double bit, and may I add that in the days of my youth, when I hunted in Ireland, hundreds of good horsemen and women used this bit in preference to the plain snaffle? The snaffle is not at all in universal use over there; to think that this is so is entirely incorrect. Mr. Hames, than whom no better horseman ever crossed a country, always said that one should fit a heavy double bit, and he always did so. With his superb hands his method was never to use it unless necessary, but when it was necessary one had it there to control one's horse.

To refer to my own experience, I hunted a thoroughbred mare who had been raced over hurdles and was very hot in the first season I rode her. As I could not hold her, I eventually hunted her in a Mohawk bit, which can be extremely severe or not according to how it is used. At the end of the season a friend said: "That is the most temperate and well-mannered little mare I have seen for a long time." This was entirely due to getting a bit in which I could hold her and against which she never tried to pull or take charge, as she knew she could not do it! With another fast and well-bred horse, which was bought from Mr. Sam Hames, I also had some trouble, but with him a gag snaffle made him into a mount that could be ridden and controlled by a child. At the start of every season he had one try to make a "get-away," but when he found it was

impossible he never pulled an ounce afterwards. As a young 'un in his first season I hunted him in a "Tom Thumb," and he went well in it, but with a little more knowledge of what hunting meant he got his head down and took complete charge. The gag snaffle stopped that once and for ever.

I have always thought that there is a bit for every horse and that half the time when one sees horses and their riders at sixes and sevens it is for want of the right bit. Once that is found, mutual comfort, trust and confidence will come and everything will go right. To quote Mr. Hames again: "Establish free-masonry" and all will be right for horse and rider.—H. RAIT KERR.



# MAKING PHEASANTS' EGGS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."  
SIR,—Since he was fifteen years of age Mr. W. H. Bailey of Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire, who is now seventy-two, has been turning small wooden objects by hand. Of late years he has specialised in turning dummy pheasants' and partridges' eggs. When I visited his workshop at the back of the Turner's Arms he had just received an order for twelve gross of these eggs. The only break in his long career as a wood-turner was during the last war, when for two years he worked in a munition factory at Peterborough. This is the greatest distance he has travelled from Kings Cliffe, of which he is a native; some of his work has, however, travelled as far as America. This business was established in the little workshop here as long ago as 1690. Before he took up the work Mr. Bailey's father was in the business; he died at the age of seventy-eight. Sycamore is the wood used for making the imitation eggs. The branches are first sawn into suitable lengths; next they are split and roughly shaped by means of a shave, the work being completed on the lathe. Afterwards the eggs each receive two coats of paint, when they so nearly resemble the real thing that it is almost impossible to distinguish the artificial from the real.—J. W. MORTON.

# CHINA CLAY

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."  
SIR,—You may like to print the enclosed photograph of the interior of a Cornish china clay mine. It was a surprise to me to learn that china clay comes second only to coal in the list of our exports of raw materials. The average annual output is nearly a million tons, most of it mined in an area of about thirty square miles around the port of St. Austell.

As the name suggests, the making of fine pottery and porcelain is the obvious use for much of the stuff, but it is also used for an increasing number of other and strange purposes. Now we read that in Germany soap is being made with 60 per cent. of this substance! Until the war Germany was one of the largest buyers of china clay from this country. Much is used in paper-making especially for the high-grade coated papers such as COUNTRY LIFE is printed on. But among other things in which it forms an ingredient are pencils and paints, tooth-paste and face powder, linoleum, wallpaper, and plate polish. Besides this, it is being increasingly used in medicine, forming the basis of the modern poultice, as well as being taken internally, when it is prescribed as "Kaolin," its Chinese name. For, of course, it was being used in China to make lovely porcelain thousands of years before any was made in this country. In 1750 a Quaker, of Plymouth, discovered the deposits in Devon and Cornwall, and so laid the foundations of the English porcelain industry. Within a year the clay was being shipped to Worcester for the now famous china works there, being brought right up to the works by barges on the Severn.



THE EGG-MAKER AT WORK

The mining is chiefly done by water power. As the illustration shows, hydraulic hoses with a force of perhaps a hundred pounds to the square inch wash down the clay to the bottom of the pit, where it passes through a number of settling pits before all the impurities are removed. As it takes about six million tons of the deposit to produce the



LOOKING DOWN INTO A CHINA CLAY MINE

million tons of pure clay, it is no wonder that there are huge refuse dumps thrown out. When purified, the clay is dried in kilns and is then ready to be cut into squares for packing.—M. W.

# THE GRAPE HARVEST IN PALESTINE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."  
SIR,—To gather 10,000 tons of grapes in the space of twenty days is the feat performed every vintage season in Palestine. This huge quantity of grapes is converted into wine and goes all over the world, wine-making being one of the Holy Land's principal industries. It is but natural, perhaps, that Palestine should prove successful as a wine-producing country. From the earliest times it has been famed for its grapes. The climate of the country is peculiarly suited to the cultivation of the grape, which reaches perfection during the prolonged sunshine and dewy nights of late summer.

The principal wine-producing centres are Rishon-le-Zion, Zichron Jacob, Ness-Zionah, Rechoboth and Gederah. The first two centres are the largest, and were founded by the late Baron Rothschild some sixty years ago. The annual yield of wine for these two centres is one and three-quarter and one and a half million litres respectively. Around these settlements the vineyards extend for miles. From those of Rishon some four thousand tons of the finest grapes are gathered annually, and a similar quantity from the vineyards of Zichron. As the crops have to be harvested within twenty days, or three weeks, grape-picking-time is a very busy affair.

A visit to the vineyard in the harvesting season presents an animated spectacle. As far as the eye can see, there are miles of vines loaded down with great clusters of the fruit, and moving about the vineyards are groups of young women and girls picking the grapes and placing them in large baskets. The services of every available worker in the settlements, both women and girls, are requisitioned, and, in addition, 500 to 600 extra pickers who come from nearby Jewish colonies and towns. These extra hands include for the most part young people from school age upwards. They are accommodated in special camps among the vineyards, twenty-five to 150 in each camp. The weather in Palestine at this time of the year is ideal for camping, and this affords a healthy change for those who are normally engaged in office or factory.

An average day's picking at Zichron or Rishon is about 200 tons, and during the twenty days that the picking lasts some four thousand tons of grapes are gathered from the vineyards at each settlement and conveyed to the wine cellars. As the fruit is picked it is placed in large baskets. When full these are emptied into barrels which are taken to the cellars by lorry or mule-cart and there crushed and converted into wine.—H. J. S.



IN THE VINEYARD



BRINGING IN THE GRAPES

## SPRING SALMON RESULTS AND PROSPECTS

THE salmon fishing season is now two months old. We should therefore have enough information to judge of its progress and to attempt to foretell, with some reasonable chance of accuracy, the prospects for the remainder of the spring period. The two most important months, April and May, are still to come; March, often unsatisfactory for several reasons even when plenty of fish are in the water, is rapidly waning, and February is well behind us.

At the opening of the season some of our Scottish rivers are often well stocked. Tay in January, Tweed, Dee, Spey and Don, to name no others, in February often have many beats that are full of fish. This year the great frost exercised a controlling influence as in no other recent season. The early fish were checked in their course or held in the sea. Salmon failed to reach even the cruives of Don, and the opening net catches there were counted in units rather than hundreds as might well have been the case had the frost been less severe. And when the thaw came it was accompanied only in the extreme north of Scotland by what might have been regarded in the circumstances as a spate of reasonable size. Anglers were still out of luck, but it was common knowledge that the nets near Aberdeen and those about Berwick-on-Tweed had uncommonly good catches. In these districts, therefore, plenty of fish were evidently waiting to go up the rivers, although, since the catches represented the fish which had accumulated over a period of a couple of months, this is not surprising. Reports in other districts were apparently not quite so encouraging. Since in these areas also considerable numbers of salmon ought gradually to have gathered together over a period of time, the reported results are even more depressing than would have been the case in a normal season when the fish had an almost continuous opportunity of entering fresh water as soon as they approached the mouths of the rivers.

As the snow melted and some rain fell the ice finally left the rivers and the level rose. We have also had quite a number of days during March when more than a hint of spring has been in the air, kelts have been active, and clean fish encouraged to take fly or minnow. In Tweed some quite fair sport has been enjoyed up to and a little beyond Kelso. So far no single day's catch has run into the twenty mark, but more than one rod has had half a score of the active little springers which are the mainstay of the Border river and which, on suitable tackle, provide such good sport.

Tay also has played its part, and as many as nine of its much larger fish, some of which have been over thirty pounds, have been landed from one boat in a day. Dee and Don, on the other hand, have suffered something of an eclipse. In the Dee very few fish seem to be above Banchory, and only a relatively small number have been taken lower down. Rivers farther north have been in the same state and fish really began to show themselves only about the middle of March.

In short, conditions have been all against a good early run up the rivers; but even so, results achieved by rod and line so far have been disappointing, and no evidence exists of the start of a real improvement. After a long hold-up in the sea, and had the run been at an average level, all the nets ought to have had a harvest such as that which fell to the Tweed; actual results are reported to have been far otherwise. Since that time conditions appear not to have improved. March is often an unsatisfactory month for the salmon angler. Changes in temperature, in weather conditions, in water levels, follow one another with considerable frequency. The fish have no chance of settling down. They are undecided whether to push on or to stay where they are, and it is equally difficult to discover on any particular day if they prefer a large fly to suit low temperatures or a much smaller size to correspond with the advent of spring. But in spite of these drawbacks it is a month in which there ought to be steady additions to the stock in the rivers. Evidence of these additions in the present season is rather fragmentary, and even in Tweed, the lower beats of which are probably the best stocked of all our rivers, the run seems to have fallen far below the level of that first glorious burst when the river became open to travelling salmon and much below what might be expected at this date.

The present position is therefore not good. It may be that it will improve in the next month or so but, if that be the case and the improvement leads to a catch which is up to the average of recent years, the result will be exceptional. It will mean that a poor early run, which is not without precedent during the last few seasons, followed by, at the best, an indifferent run in the middle season, has been succeeded by a quite unusually good stock in the later spring salmon months. It may be that we shall have this final development. It is to be hoped that we shall, but the prospects are not encouraging even for the small springers, and certainly not for the larger fish.

PISCATOR SENIOR.

## STRANGERS IN THE CLASSICS

IT is always an interesting, and sometimes a remunerative, relaxation to run the rule over those colts and fillies who, while not taking the highest rank in the Official Handicapper's Free Handicap for Two Year Olds, either through insufficient running or other causes, are still aspirants for classic honours. Both the interest and the possibilities of remuneration become the greater when, as last season, the better known two year olds now in the picture as three year olds are far from being a vintage crop. Just as likely as not, their owners and trainers, realising their limitations, let them do what they could do while they could do it as youngsters; other owners and trainers, seeing or hoping for possibilities, allowed their charges more time to mature, with the surely more sensible, though not so immediately profitable, idea that a colt or a filly with classic potentialities must be given his or her own time to develop naturally and so make a better three year old, a longer-lasting racehorse and, eventually, a better stallion or brood mare. Black Toni, though his inclusion among the "dark horses" may be criticised, comes into the latter group. Bred by Sir Charles Pulley, a one-time M.P. for one of the Herefordshire constituencies, at his Eaton Bishop Stud in the Wye Valley, this colt, who cost 910gs. as a yearling at the Doncaster auction of 1938, is owned by Lady Beatty, a daughter-in-law of the late Admiral; is trained by Major Beatty—a brother of the Admiral—and through his two victories in four attempts last season accredited his owner with £342 in prize-money, as against the £21,112 that the three colts—Tant Mieux, the Rose of England colt, and Stardust—who were considered by Mr. Fawcett to be his superiors, earned through their eleven wins. By Rockfel's sire, Felstead, who won the Derby of 1928 and carries a double line of Carbine blood, Black Toni is from Miss Ascot, a daughter of the Ascot Gold Cup winner Massine out of Mademoiselle d'Auteuil, she by the St. Leger winner Ossian. Very obviously a colt possessed of a staying pedigree and so one of slow maturity, Black Toni has never been hurried or over-raced, but has come along gradually, and though possibly lacking the initial speed necessary for the Two Thousand Guineas, will, with Carslake in the saddle, be in his element in the Derby and the St. Leger. Mention of Tant Mieux, who had an unusual amount of running last season for a Beckhampton classic aspirant, calls to mind the fact that Mr. Fred Darling, who trains him and has already been responsible for the handling of five Derby winners, has, even for

him, a large number of "dark" but beautifully bred classic candidates. Of these Czadas, who has yet to carry colours, and Paques, who ran but once and then in October, belong to Mr. "Manna" Morriss; the former is one of the first get of the triple-crown winner Bahram and is out of Premiere Danseuse, a Phalaris mare who descends from Prince Palatine's dam, Lady Lightfoot; the latter is a half-brother to Pascal and the Two Thousand Guineas victor Pasch, by the St. Leger winner Singapore out of Pasca, a Manna mare whose grandam was the late Sir Edward Hulton's famous mare Silver Fowl, the dam of the Derby and Oaks heroine Fifinella. Two more with but a single experience of the racecourse, in the same stable, are Mr. J. A. Dewar's Camphor and Mrs. Macdonald-Buchanan's King Hal; while a fifth of the "dark ones" is Mr. Fred Darling's own colt Pont l'Eveque. As with those of Mr. Morriss, the breeding of these three would grace any classic scroll. Camphor, who was fourth on his only appearance in the Theale Plate at Newbury in October, claims the Two Thousand Guineas and Derby winner Cameronian as his sire and is out of Aloe, an own-sister to the Ascot Gold Cup winner Foxlaw, who was bred, like Foxlaw, by Sir Abe Bailey, and after spending her early days as a matron at Lord St. David's stud was sold, at his death, at the December Sales of 1936, when carrying Camphor, to Mr. Dewar for 4,500gs.; King Hal is a product of the Lavington Park Stud founded by the late Lord Woolavinton, and is by the Derby and St. Leger victor Windsor Lad from the French-bred mare Mary Tudor II, she by the St. Leger winner Fairway's own-brother Pharos, out of Anna Bolena, a Teddy mare who came from Queen Elizabeth II, an English mare who was by the Cesarewitch winner Wargrave; and Pont l'Eveque, who made his debut at Salisbury in August, and later ran second to Liberated in the Beaufort Plate at Newmarket, is a son of Comte de Rivaud's Grand Prix de Paris victor Barneveldt, he by The Winter King, a Mentmore-bred stallion who was by Son-in-Law from the Derby and Oaks victress Signorinetta. *A propos* the Comte de Rivaud: at the moment of writing the Middle Park Stakes victor Djebel is the nominal favourite for the "New" Derby, and is reckoned by that experienced but unofficial handicapper Captain R. C. Long to be 7lb. superior to anything of his age that was prominent last season as a youngster; it should be noted, however, that among the fresh entry the Comte has named the filly Furane, a daughter of the French Derby victor Château



Bouscaut who put paid to the pretensions of both Djebel and Lord Derby's French-bred colt Lighthouse II in the Prix Morny at Deauville in August. Lighthouse II is another new classic candidate of interesting parentage; his sire was Pharos, an own-brother to the St. Leger winner Fairway who was responsible for last year's Two Thousand Guineas and Derby winner Blue Peter; his dam, Pyramid, claimed the Derby winner Papyrus as her sire, was successful in the Jockey Club Stakes, and came from the Northumberland Plate victress Trestle, who was an own-sister to the St. Leger heroine Keysoe, by the St. Leger winner Swynford from the Oaks victress Keystone II. Last to mention of the lesser-known candidates are Jonario and War Loan. The former of these, who belongs to Sir Alfred McAlpine and is trained by Mr. Victor Smyth at Epsom, ran twice towards the end of the season and is by the St. Leger winner Solario from Jonah's Trace, a half-sister to Heverswood by Abbot's Trace.

Jonah's Trace, who was bred by the late Lord Dewar, has been responsible for several unimportant winners, and was sold, when carrying Jonario, at the December Sales of 1936 for 700gs. to Mrs. Tuthill, who bred Jonario and sold him as a yearling to Sir Alfred McAlpine at the Doncaster auction of 1938 for 2,200gs. War Loan belongs to Mr. Douglas Crossman and is trained by Mr. Basil Briscoe at Royston. Never yet seen in colours, he is a half-brother to Laughing Water, who ran second to Rockfel in the One Thousand Guineas, by the Eclipse Stakes victor Loaningdale from Duchess of Mars, a Son-in-Law mare who, like Martian and Queen of Mars, was from Princess of Mars by Orby. Bred by Mr. Crossman, who bought his dam from her breeders, Messrs. Cooper and Rowson, for 800gs. at the December Sales of 1933, he has come well to hand and is, with the others mentioned, one who will make this season's substitute classic races more interesting than ever.

ROYSTON.

## THE ESTATE MARKET

### FRENSHAM PONDS: AN IMPENDING SALE

**F**RENSHAM PONDS and the heaths and commons of the neighbourhood are one of the most remarkable and deservedly so-called beauty spots of the southern counties. The largest pond is over 100 acres, and of this 7 acres are across the Hampshire border in the parish of Headley. Frensham, Churt, Hindhead and Shottermill are within the parish of Frensham, and the whole district is one which has come into favour residentially in a comparatively recent period. How recently is recalled by the assertion, in some notes on that part of Surrey by Mr. J. Alfred Eggar, a former Farnham estate agent, that black-game and grouse bred there less than 100 years ago, and that after the Enclosure Act was passed in 1845, to facilitate the enclosure and improvement of commons, many owners planted the commonland allotted to them with fir trees for poles for hop-growing. As he says of the Frensham district, "They little thought at the time that they were clothing the land for residential purposes." At that time the land was not fetching more than £5 an acre. Cobbett, in his "Rural Rides," revealed anything but admiration for Frensham as he knew it. Professor Tyndall was the first to build an important house at Hindhead, and his papers on the beauty and salubrity of the spot encouraged others to follow his example. Oddly enough, Tyndall resented the newcomers, and surrounded his property with a dense screen of trees. Frensham Great Pond is fed by the Whitmore Vale stream, and it has been thought to have served Waverley Abbey as a source of supplies of fish.

#### BREAK-UP OF PIERREPONT

**T**HE ponds now form part of the Pierrepont estate, which Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Alfred Savill and Sons are to sell. This residential, agricultural and sporting estate of 2,650 acres comes into the market in consequence of the death of Mr. Richard Combe, and the family's ownership for three-quarters of a century is thus to be terminated. No estate of comparable area and public importance has been offered for a long while, certainly not since the Declaration of War last September. In present circumstances there is, of course, no practicable alternative to dealing with the estate in lots, and the break-up of Pierrepont will, it is safe to predict, even in the present difficult conditions, evoke exceptional interest. In all probability there will be efforts to secure parts of the property for permanent public enjoyment.

#### A NORMAN SHAW MANSION

**N**ORMAN SHAW was the architect of the mansion, which is constructed of stone and has half-timbered upper storeys and massive chimney stacks. The site was well chosen,

the park of about 200 acres being a miniature plateau overlooking the Wey and the pleasant hamlet of Mill Bridge. Mr. Combe called the mansion after the seat that was built in the eighteenth century by Evelyn Pierrepont, second and last Duke of Kingston. The

with house, buildings and cottages, at Blandford, in that rich dairy farming country of Dorset along the Stour. The agents concerned were Messrs. Fox and Sons.

Sir Reginald Blomfield devoted much time to the restoration and enlargement of Cranecroft, at Mayfield. The house, in beautiful grounds adorned by a chain of small lakes, and 172 acres, will come under the hammer of Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. E. Watson and Sons, on April 16th, at Hanover Square, as a whole or in lots, and possession may be had in June.

The Crag, Maenporth, near Falmouth, is for sale by Messrs. Ralph Pay and Taylor. The house stands on a bold headland, and in some respects reminds one of a Riviera villa. It has luxuriant gardens bordering the steep ascent to it. An acre of foreshore and 120 acres of other land go with the house. The

home farm of 60 acres is let at £160 a year. The view from the house extends as far as St. Mawes.

Avening Court, Tetbury, a noble old Cotswold house in a park of 126 acres, is for sale by Messrs. Ralph Pay and Taylor. The fireplaces and panelling are exceptionally good examples of Cotswold building.

Lord Methuen has instructed Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff to let unfurnished an exquisite little Georgian house in Corsham known as The Grove. The house has been recently renovated with scrupulous regard for its antiquity, particular attention having been given to the fireplaces and the original and ornate panelling. Mr. Nathaniel Lloyd, F.R.I.B.A., refers to The Grove in his "History of the English House." The property, of 7 acres, commands delightful views, and it is within easy reach of Bath.

Clopton Hall, the seventeenth-century house and residential, sporting and agricultural estate of 1,000 acres, near Stowmarket, has changed hands through the agency of Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff and Messrs. Woodward and Woodward. There are eight farms, and a good deal of nice woodland. It is expected that the estate will be carried on as a whole. Other East Anglian sales are announced by Messrs. Woodward and Woodward, the market showing signs of a return to the normal.

The late Colonel Roundell's Newbury estate, Burlins, at East Woodhay, approximately 68 acres, has come into the market, and Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. are the agents. The perfectly equipped residence occupies a high site, in the midst of grounds that are beautified by huge clumps of rhododendrons, and the woodland walks are fringed with flowering shrubs. A stream-fed lake of almost 2 acres, in the garden, affords good fishing. The price of Burlins is very moderate, having regard to the excellence of the house and the perfection of its upkeep during Colonel Roundell's tenure.

ARBITER.



FRENSHAM PONDS, SURREY

estate includes Hankley Common and golf course, the home farm, the old-fashioned residence known as Frensham Priory, another called the Malt House at Spreakley, many small houses, a large number of excellent cottages, and those much-frequented licensed premises, the Mariner's Inn at Mill Bridge, and the Frensham Pond Hotel, which overlooks Frensham Ponds.

#### AN EARLY PIERREPONT'S MARRIAGE

**T**HE name of Evelyn Pierrepont may arouse memories of a famous trial in the year 1775. Elizabeth Chudleigh had been secretly married to the Hon. Augustus Hervey, grandson of the Earl of Bristol, but she yielded to the persuasion of the Duke of Kingston and, probably relying on the clandestine nature of her lawful marriage with Hervey, contracted a matrimonial alliance with the owner of Pierrepont House. She was indicted for bigamy and claimed the right to be tried by her peers, who did not fail in their duty and found her guilty. The erring lady did not wait for the law to take its course, but made for the coast, and, after a safe if troublesome voyage, landed abroad and began the life of a fugitive in various parts of Europe. Horace Walpole had much to say about Elizabeth's misbehaviour at Court, and Thackeray is supposed to have had her adventures in mind when writing of Beatrix in "The History of Henry Esmond, Esquire," his vivid picture of English society in the opening years of the eighteenth century. She figures, too, in "The Virginians," the Beatrix of the earlier work having become in this one the Baroness Bernstein, the chief character in the story, and "a stout sardonic old woman with piercing dark eyes."

#### COLLEGE INVESTMENT IN FARMS

**G**ONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE, Cambridge, has purchased as an investment Gains Cross, a dairy farm of 260 acres,



## THE GILBEY ANGLING PICTURES

(Right) ARTHUR DEVIS. "THE SWAINE FAMILY." 1749

(Below) A GROUP, BY EDWARD SMITH OF FOWEY, 1773



THE late Arthur Gilbey's collection of painting connected with his favourite sport, of which he was a past master, has long been famous among connoisseurs of both art and angling. They hung at Folly Farm, his Lutyens house in Berkshire, and now will be seen all together for the last time at Christie's—on view April 22nd–24th, sale April 25th and 26th. The second day's sale comprises his general collection of early water-colours, to which an article will be devoted next week. These notes refer to the fishing section only, comprising 139 lots.

A consolation for the dispersal of this unique collection that, in happier times, might and certainly ought to have been saved for the nation, is that the best of it is preserved in the late Walter Shaw Sparrow's book, "Angling in British Art," of which it formed the basis.

Angling pictures may be divided into two classes: those in which a connection with fishing is incidental to a portrait or landscape—of which there are well known examples elsewhere by Zoffany, for instance; and pictures with angling as their principal motive. The latter are rare until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when fishing began to rival racing as a subject for sporting artists with James Pollard as the leading exponent. In the first group Mr. Gilbey had a number of charming and several outstanding examples. Among the latter is Arthur Devis's well known conversation piece, "The Swaine Family of Laverington Hall, Isle of Ely," dated 1749, and his "Lady Caroline Leigh Fishing" in a yellow dress.

(Left) JAMES POLLARD. "TROLLING FOR PIKE IN THE RIVER LEA." 1831

(Below) ARTHUR DEVIS. "LADY CAROLINE LEIGH FISHING"



A very interesting picture is a group of ladies and gentlemen in a formal garden in front of a mansion, inscribed "Ed<sup>d</sup> Smith at Fowey Cornwall 1773 Inv<sup>t</sup> et pinx<sup>t</sup>." Little seems to be known of Smith, and the house has not been identified. No less obscurity attaches to a real angling picture of a fishing party at Harleyford on the Thames by "John Camden and James Wales" of about 1780. It was lent to the COUNTRY LIFE Exhibition in 1937, where the identity of the artists aroused considerable speculation. It is suggested that Camden may be a name assumed by Joseph Farington.

In the second category there is an early example, dated 1608, by Vinckeboons. One of the best of Georgian angling pictures is that by Stubbs of Ozias Humphry, R.A., fishing on the Dart—matched by the water-colour by J. F. Lewis, R.A., of Sir Edwin Landseer in the act of landing a fish. Then we come to the famous series by Pollard of pike fishing on streams in the environs of London, of which Mr. Gilbey had ten. They are in many respects the greatest of true angling pictures.

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# INGENUITY ON THE ONE-HORSE FARM

## AN AMATEUR FARMER PLOUGHS HIS BIT

**W**AR requirements have brought many changes to our one-horse farm. The feeding-stuffs position makes it necessary that we should grow our own corn and fodder rather than rely upon importation for mash or cake. The plough was the primary implement required. Had we kept to our one horse this would have presented no difficulty, for light ploughs suitable for the purpose were, and are still, readily available. It may be remembered, too, that one of our most august agricultural research stations once pronounced that for the maximum cultural effectiveness the one-horse plough could not be bettered. But, though still a one-horse place, our horse has been replaced by a Fordson. And what a splendid, tireless stallion of steel it is!—a very Jack-of-all-trades of a horse, as happy sawing logs as pulling a heavy implement all day under a broiling sun. But to obtain a new tractor plough proved impossible—“Reserved for the Government” we were told. So the best ploughing weather passed, last autumn, while we made fruitless efforts to buy a second-hand one. The old horse plough had proved a failure on the tough old pasture when pulled by the tractor, so a neighbour's offer of an old European War food-production plough was seized upon with relief. The monster was hauled from the bed of brambles where it had lain for many years and hoisted upon the trailer. Once home it was completely dismantled, the sound parts scraped and painted, and new blades and shares fitted. Some broken parts that could not be replaced were welded, and finally, after some precious weeks had passed, the veteran implement emerged in as good heart as when it left its American factory more than two decades ago. Compared with the modern light plough it appeared unnecessarily heavy and massive, but its very ruggedness was to prove a blessing. When the time came to tackle certain old pastures which had degenerated to “rough grazings” it made light of rocks and roots which would have twisted and strained many of the more delicate modern machines.

### TROUBLE ON UPLAND FIELDS

The time taken in the overhaul was not altogether wasted, for in some fields the old land drains had fallen victims to the roots of ash or alder. These trees penetrate the drains and block them with relentless determination, and weeks of back-breaking rodding and digging were needed to clear them. Even so, one or two escaped attention with the inevitable penalty of the engulfment of the tractor into the subterranean cavern of water caused by the seepage. One soon gets expert at the technique of debogging. The plough is unhitched, two stout lengths of cordwood are forced under the lugs of the tractor wheels, and then, with a frightful squelch, the vehicle rears up out of the slough on to firmer ground. A steel cable is then hitched to the plough, and the furrow pulled through in this way until it is safe to reverse and couple up again in the normal way. The difficult part is to keep the furrows straight under such conditions, but, providing that one keeps one's eye on the implement and disregards the necessary deviations of the tractor, the knack is soon acquired.

The grubbing up of trespassing bushes was another heavy but necessary item. Too often, though the seedling birches and thorns were thoroughly removed, the lowlier bramble was merely cut. This was found to be a grave mistake, for the stub of this weed has the intense toughness of a briar pipe and tangles up the coulters every time. Even if the stub were avoided one of the long root-thongs would trip up the furrow, interrupting the smooth flow of its turning with a mean flick that left the grass uppermost again. But it is a poor furrow that cannot be put right by a well placed kick. Another trouble was that the old plough had no shifting hitch—a device for pushing the plough over to right or left while in movement—and on the fierce slopes of our upland pastures such an arrangement was a necessity. Apart from the expense, none of our suppliers had a shifting hitch in stock, and deliveries were very uncertain. As the matter brooked no delay it was decided to make one. After some cogitation with a pencil and paper, the device boiled down to a simple double link pivoted on a bolt pinned through the drawbar cap of the

tractor between the securing bolts. The plough clevis was coupled to the other end, and the link held in position at the angle required by withdrawable pins pushed through the holes on either side in the drawbar cap. The use of this device added a further excitement to the negotiation of our already sufficiently perilous slopes. It was necessary to forego the comfortable tin seat and assume a flat-racing jockey's position. While with one hand the tractor was turned on the headland so as to swing the plough in the re-

quired direction, at the same time the other hand pulled out one of the pins and replaced it so as to hold the plough in the new position. One was kept very busy for a few moments at the end of each bout, but it definitely worked, which was the main thing.

When ploughing such rough and steep uplands one has enough to look after without the immense heavy wheels of a furrow-press bumbling along behind as well, and the roller has not anything like the same effectiveness in pressing the furrows down solidly, particularly when they are thick from deep ploughing and stiff with turf roots. So, to get the land firm, we had recourse to the tractor

wheels alone, and by merely running backwards and forwards across the furrows, making the wheel-marks at two-foot intervals, even the spongiest places were made perfectly solid. This took very little time, as there was no need to turn at the headlands.

### LIMING AND SOWING

Evidently lime and fertilisers would have to be applied, and the required distributor would have been too expensive an item with the soaring prices of seed corn to be faced ahead. Again the old car trailer was brought into service, the idea being that as it was pulled down the field a man should throw the fertiliser out with a shovel. But its ordeal with the heavy plough had made it too rickety and unstable for the bumps and bounds of field work, so it was decided to make a new one, which was to have four wheels for greater strength and stability. The chassis of an old Morris Cowley was retrieved from behind the barn, the body, wings, engine and transmission were removed and a platform body and steering drawbar fitted. To provide the latter a vertical pivot pin was fixed in the centre of the front cross-member so that it passed through a hole in a drawbar made from an iron strip. The front end of this drawbar was hitched to the tractor and the other passed between two studs fixed to the old track rod of the Morris. In this way the front wheels followed the swing of the drawbar most satisfactorily, and it was at least heartening to find that the expenditure amounted only to the exact number of shillings that a proper new farm trailer would have cost in pounds. In spite of choosing a fairly calm day I must admit that the operators were nearly as well limed as the fields, but on the whole the distribution was reasonably even.

Now, at last, we were ready for sowing, and, having no corn drill, or even a fiddle sower, we broadcast the seed by hand. At first the rhythm of this ancient craft is a little hard to come by—either the flick of the hand fails to precede the planting of the foot by the requisite split second, or the seed fails to cover the five-yard arc before one evenly. One sower will throw more seed to the right, another more to the left; so, to even it up, we sowed in two shifts, each strip being gone over once by both sowers. As the golden shower of wheat glinted in the sun our trained team of grub-catching hens struggled desperately to pass the wire netting that now barred them from their favourite hunting ground, little knowing that on the morrow they would be hauled off again to follow the plough in the next field.

Hard on the heels of the sowers came the harrow, a short-tined Aikenhead that pulled up little or none of the buried turf, and the limy white field became a cool brown again. Lastly the old horse roller, now adapted to tractor use, was passed over the ground to bury the loose stones and thus prevent damage to the knives of the county committee's binder which we hope will help us in the harvesting.

Thus with many a makeshift the one-horse farm dealt with its little quota of cornland; but the mites of the little farms add up to quite a big total.

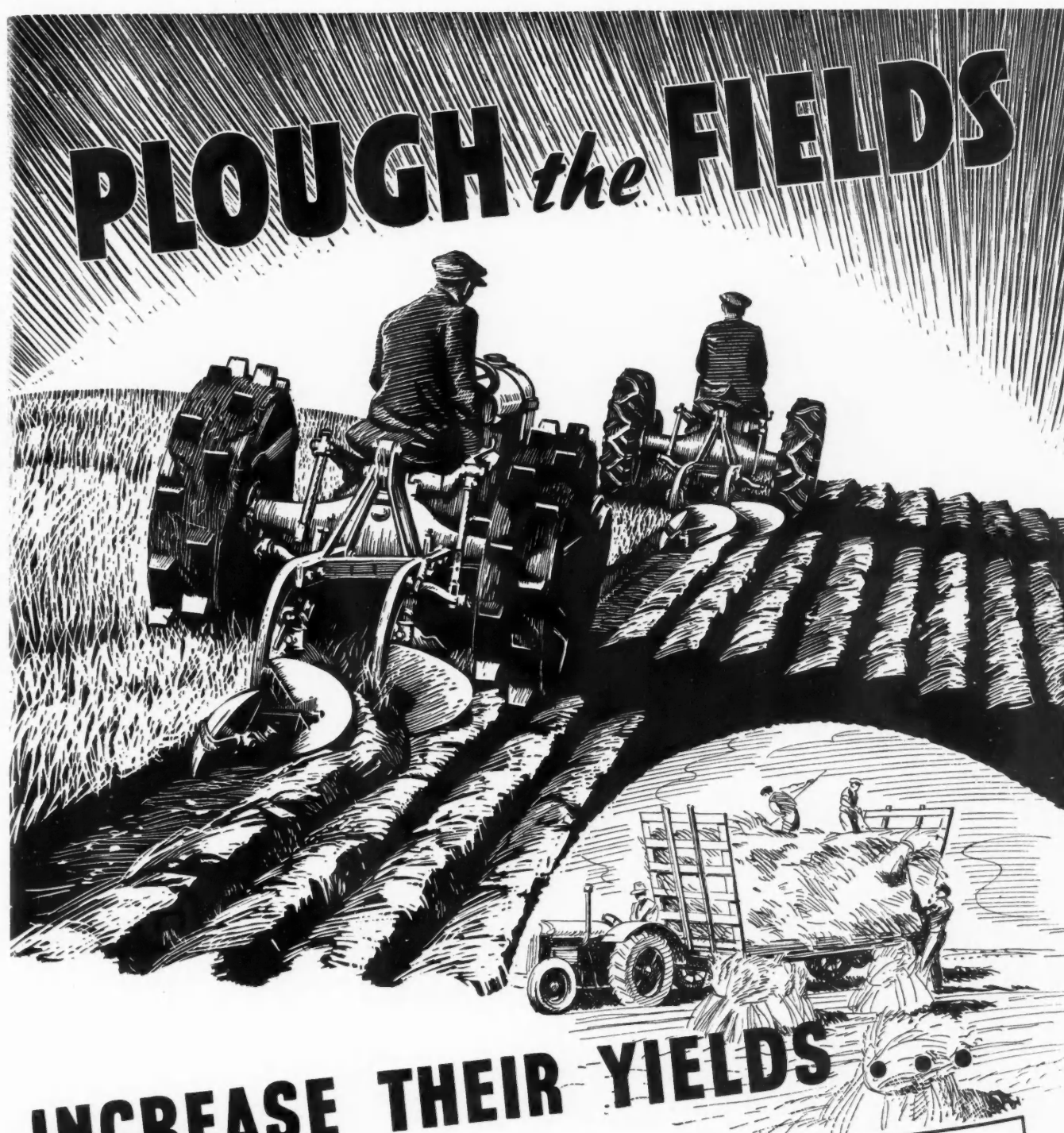
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## A WINTER OF DISCONTENT

CASUALTIES AND SURVIVALS AMONG SHRUBS AFTER THE ARCTIC WINTER. MAKING REPLACEMENTS

**A**T last we have had it, the old-fashioned winter comparable to those of half a century ago, and it has been followed in many districts, not by warm showers which might have revived many plants desiccated by frost, but by harsh drying winds and night frosts. The sunshine of early March coupled with parching winds, although they dried the soil, did not help plants; rather have they completed the destruction. The frosts of January and February of which it is now possible to speak, if they broke no records, were at any rate severe enough to stimulate research into the records of the past, and they have left behind a trail of slain and also, more gratifying, a number of survivors which, when they have been carefully sifted and systematised, will provide the gardener of the future with a fairly reliable guide as to the resistant quality of a great many trees and shrubs which, until the recent murderous spell, had never been properly tested as regards their winter hardiness.

It is perhaps too early as yet to estimate fully the losses that have occurred, but every day now makes the picture clearer, and such provisional observations will make the more venturesome gardener a wiser if a sadder man. But the prudent horticulturist will also most probably, if he is a real enthusiast, look on the other side and take heart from the many survivals that are to be noted. These will serve to stimulate him to further effort and encourage him to play with the hazards which are inseparable from the cultivation of a great number of plants that are not really hardy in our climate. It is sufficient for most of us who garden to be able to enjoy the beauties of such treasures for a few seasons, and if there comes a winter like the last, which takes a heavy toll of shrubs and trees that have taken years to reach their maturity, we are sustained by the memory of the pleasures that such plants have given us for years past. Saddening as the spectacle is of blasted and withered growths, it will surely survive the realisation of what these now lifeless plants have given us and prompt us to plant others of their kind.

Judging from reports from many gardens up and down the country it seems clear that the genus *rhododendron* has come through the ordeal with flying colours and that the *camellia*, another handsome evergreen, has given no less valiant an account of itself. With few exceptions, all the species *rhododendrons* have emerged with conspicuous triumph except for minor injuries, and have thus upheld the trust which many noted gardeners have placed in them. Through their behaviour they have added much to their prestige as garden plants, and along with the azaleas, which have also wintered well, should increase in popular favour accordingly. All the *camellias*, too, have shown their indifference to low temperatures, even young plants of the reputedly tender *C. reticulata* coming through the visitation unscathed. The same can be said of the Chilean firebush, *Embothrium coccineum*, and its cousin *E. longifolium*. Their resistance, even in Midland gardens, has been remarkable, and although their survival cannot be adduced as evidence of their bone hardiness, since hardiness is purely relative and dependent on many factors only some of which are known, it at least shows that they are more resistant than we have long believed, and their stock will go up in consequence. Other apparently paradoxical events include the escape of such things as *Coronilla glauca*, *Veronica Hulseana*, *Abelia floribunda*, *Pieris japonica* (now in full flower) and its relatives *P. formosa* and *P. taiwanensis*, *Eucalyptus Gunnii*, and *Arbutus Menziesii*.

On the other hand, most of the *ceanothus*, with the notable exception of *C. rigidus*, generally reputed to be on the tender side, and some of the azureus class like *Gloire de Versailles*, and the *cistus* have had a crippling shock. Among the latter the casualties have been heavy, and in many nurseries no less than in gardens. Once again *C. purpureus* has proved to be one of the most tender members of the race, while *C. ludaniferus* and *C. cyprus* look as if they will pull through. Death and destruction have also stalked among the heaths. *Erica arborea* has fallen a victim, and its hybrid descendant *E. Veitchii* has succumbed no less completely. *E. australis* looks as if it had been through a fire, and *E. mediterranea* and *E. lusitanica* are hardly much better. The



THE CHILEAN FIRE BUSH *EMBOTHRIUM COCCINEUM*. This has been one of the most notable survivals of the Arctic winter

*daboecias*, too, present a sorry picture, and the recent addition *D. azorica* is withered like brown paper, although this experience is not common everywhere. There are compensations, however. *E. arborea alpina* has once again proved itself harder than the type, although in some Midland places it has been damaged, and the white variety of *E. australis* called Mr. Robert is little affected. Most of the dwarf heaths have behaved excellently, although it is interesting to record that plants of *Erica vagans* cut back in the autumn after flowering are shrivelled and dead owing to the shredding of the pruned shoots by the frost, a condition

which seems to point to the inadvisability of cutting back heaths in the late autumn. Reports indicate that in some districts roses have suffered badly, especially those with tea blood, and the hybrid musks. All the species, however, are unscathed, as are the brooms and most of the barberries, the notable exception being *B. lomariifolia*, which seems to have succumbed in most places. Strangely enough, several of the cotoneasters have suffered badly, *C. serotina* being browned and completely defoliated, and *C. frigida* being cut back; and the same can be said of the *skimmias*.

At the moment, as the casualties reveal themselves, it is a question for most of us whether to grub out the apparently dead and replant at once, or to leave for another season in the hope of recovery. On the whole, we know the worst now, thanks to the real spring-like spell during Easter, and as nurseries are still well stocked and prices reasonable, it seems wise to make replacements at once and so gain the advantage of a season. There is still ample time to make plantings of all evergreens and those shrubs which nurserymen commonly grow in pots, but there should be no delay in getting any deciduous trees and shrubs into their places now, for growth is already active and unless the opportunity is taken soon, it will be lost. It should be remembered, too, that by making replacements immediately, it will not only be of benefit to the garden, but a help to the nurseryman in assisting him to clear his ground and so prepare the way for the production of vegetable crops.

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Its colour is difficult to describe; there is beige in the check and yellow and two or three shades ranging from red to brick, and there are flecks of green and orange, but even now I think I have left something out. The effect is perhaps most like that of a whole lot of Virginia creeper leaves in autumn sunshine. The hat and very soft woollen jumper with one very original pocket are in a warm shade of brick red, and so are the delightful shoes. The gloves and ostrich skin bag both come from the same great shop.









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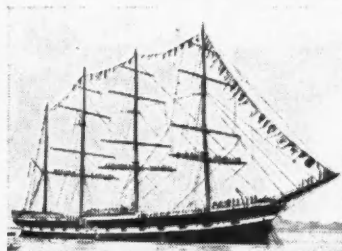
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